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Journal Kept in Quebec

Jeffry

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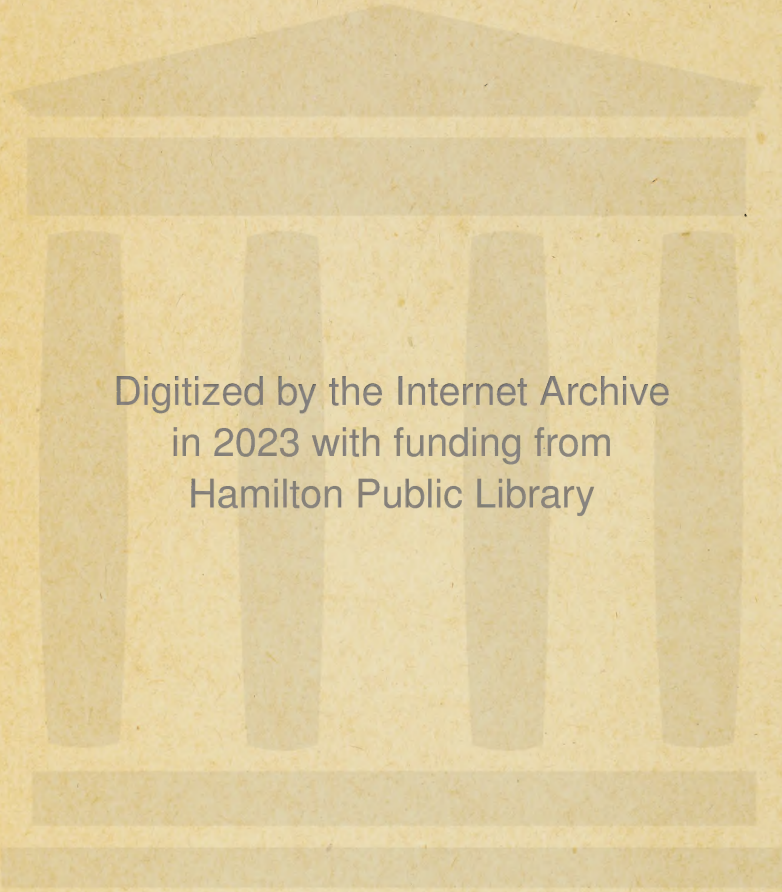
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HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS
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No. 2

JOURNAL KEPT IN QUEBEC IN 1775 BY
JAMES JEFFRY.

ANNOTATED BY WILLIAM SMITH, PUBLIC ARCHIVES,
OTTAWA, CANADA.

James Jeffry, who kept the following journal, was born Aug. 20, 1733, in Salem, Mass. He was a son of James Jeffry, merchant, who removed to Salem from Portsmouth, N. H., in 1722, and a grandson of James Jeffry who was born March 10, 1676, in the parish of St. Agnes, Cornwall, and who came to America and lived many years at Portsmouth. The journalist died in Salem, where he was buried Nov. 7, 1807. "He was educated in Quebec and continued clerk in the service of E. H. Derby, our eminent merchant, during the whole time in which he acquired his riches. Mr. Jeffry was never married, and died in the family house opposite the First church. He was much valued for his fidelity. Since Mr. Derby's death he has led an inactive life and his gout terminated in paralytic affections, debility, and finally into the loss of his faculties."—*Dr. Bentley's Diary*.

James Jeffry appears as clerk in the post office at Quebec in 1763 or 1764, and seems to have been much in charge of the office during the frequent absences of Hugh Finlay, the postmaster. It is to be regretted that the journal ends with the month of October, or that its undoubted successor has not been preserved, so that the

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events leading up to Montgomery's assault upon the city cannot be chronicled as well. It is probable that Jeffry may have left Quebec in consequence of the order issued by Gov. Carleton on Nov. 22nd, that all able-bodied non-combatants should leave the city. The original manuscript of the following journal is now in the possession of the Essex Institute, Wheatland MSS., Vol. I, leaf 10.

Jan. 1, 1775. Sunday. Fine moderate weather. I dined at Simpson's. Jn^o Aitkin,* Freeman, Watt, Martin, Cole & Doc^r Gill dined there. The Post arr^d this morn^g. I went to meeting. Heard Parson Henry.†

2. I dined at home. Cap^t Freeman & Cap^t Watt dined there with us.

3. I dined with Finlay.‡ Old Alan dined there.

4. The Post arr^d soon this morning. Quite moderate. Fine rain most of the day. I dined at home.

6. I dined at home. A large company dined with Cap^t Ja^s Johnston. Shoolbred, Atkinson, & Cole dined there, the latter came home very late & very drunk.

7. A New York Post arr^d this morn^g. I dined at home. By some private letters from England heard that Judge Hey§ is a member of Parliament for Sandwich.

9. Clear weather. Nothing material. I dined with M^r & M^{rs} Finlay.

11. This morn^g arr^d the Nov^r Packet. A large mail from New Port, containing the letters by the Mercury, Cap^t Young, who sail'd from London for Quebec last

*Lieutenant in the British militia.

†First Presbyterian minister in Quebec.

‡Hugh Finlay came to Canada in 1760 and went into business. On account of his knowledge of French, which was rare among the English at the time, but supremely important in establishing relations with the Canadians, he was made a Justice of the Peace. When Franklin came up to Canada to establish a postal service, he placed it in Finlay's hands. In 1765 Finlay was made Legislative Councillor. When Quebec was besieged he enlisted in the militia as ensign, and shortly afterwards was made lieutenant. Before this (in 1774), on Franklin's dismissal, he was made Deputy Postmaster General of the Northern District of North America, and on the achievement of independence, Deputy Postmaster General of the remaining colonies of British North America. He died in 1802.

§Chief Justice of the Province of Quebec in 1766.

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July and a mail as ordinary from N. York. The amt of this day's mail, if the letters should all be taken up, is £92.16.7. I dined at Prentice's.

12. I dined with Finlay. I went to the Assembly at Prentice's this evening.

15. Sunday. N. E. snow storm began last night & continues this day. I at home all the day.

17. A great number of people arr^d from Montreal to attend at the Chatteau tomorrow night being the Queen's birth night. I dined at home.

18. This morn^g was fought a duel between R. Jackson and C^s Daily. Pistols load'd wth powder only. No N. York mail. I dined at home. E. Antill* arr^d this morn^g from Montreal.

19. I dined with Finlay. Antill and Maj^r Skene dined there.

21. A courier from Albany by Skenesborough but no N. Y. mail. I dined at home.

22. Sunday. Went to hear Parson Henry. Dined wth M^r & M^{rs} Rowe. Hazen dined there.

23. Atkinson and Cole wth Cap^t Gregory & Cap^t Freeman set off for a ride around the Island of Orleans. Shoolbred to S^t Foix to learn French. I dined wth Finlay.

24. Gregory and Comp^y returned this even^g.

25. Several N. Y., Boston, and Phil^a mails arr^d by this day Courier. I dined at home.

26. I dined with Finlay. Went to the Assembly this evening at Prentices.†

27. Heard that D. Phillips lay very ill in the West Indies.

29. Sunday. I dined with M^r & M^{rs} Allsop.‡ Par-

*E. Antill, born in Piscataqua, N. H., April, 1742; studied law; removed to Montreal. Joining Montgomery, he became chief engineer. After the attack on Quebec, Wooster sent him with the news to Congress. Made Lieutenant Colonel in Hazen's regiment. In December, 1776, was made recruiting officer through the Southern States. Captured at Staten Island, 1777; released on parole; exchanged November, 1780; remained in New York till 1785; returned to Canada, and died at St. Johns in 1789.

†Miles Prentice served under Wolfe at Plains of Abraham; kept an inn; his wife identified the body of Montgomery, who had formerly lived at their house.

‡George Allsop, clerk of the Legislative Council; afterwards a member of the Council.

son Montmollin* & wife, Cap^t Gill & wife, Mr. Lauck, Cap^t Gregory & Jn^o Gill dined there.

30. I dined wth Finlay. M^r and M^{rs} Scott din'd with us.

Feb. 1, 1775. A small mail from Montreal only. I dined at home.

2. I dined wth Finlay. L^t Thomas of y^e 26th Reg^t, Tho^s Aylwin,† E. Antill & Sam^l Phillips‡ dined there.

4. A New York mail this morn^g bro^t nothing extraordinary. I dined at home.

5. Sunday. I at home all this day writing. Dined at home.

6. I dined wth Finlay. A Grand Ball given by the Baron's Club at Menuts.§ Upwards of 100 people there.

8. A mail from New York. I dined at home. Gov^r Carleton, Lady Marie & a large company with them went to Indian Lorette where the Indians had roasted an ox whole, which the General had made them a present of.

9. I dined with Finlay. Went to the Assembly this evening. Jn^o Aitken entertained at Dinner all the cast-away and disbanded Captains. Cole appeared there as proxy to Bray who winters at Coudre.

11. I dined at Prentices on boil'd turkey & oyster sauce. M^r & M^{rs} Prentice with myself was all the com^y at table. Spent the evening at Simpson's where ab^t a dozⁿ of us suped from the produce of the follow^g wagers, viz :

Freeman vs. Halstead,|| 3 bo^s wine. Halstead says the distance from Quebec to the Island of Orleans is five miles & upwards.

Gill vs. Lees, 6 bot^s wine. Lees on the same side of Halstead.

*Chaplain of the garrison; conducted the services at Montgomery's burial.

†Quebec merchant; lieutenant in the British militia.

‡An officer in the customs; ensign in the British militia.

§Menut's. An inn one mile west of the town, kept by Alexandre Menut. Many of the fashionable social functions took place here. It was one of the rendezvous of the Americans.

||John Halstead, an American sympathizer living in Quebec. He was Commissary of Provisions until the siege was raised on May 6, 1776.

Gill vs. Aitken, 3 bot^s wine. Aitken on the side of Halstead.

Flanagin vs. Simpson, 2 do^s. Flanagin on the side of Halstead.

Melvin vs. Simpson, 2 do^s. Melvin on the side of Halstead.

The distance between the first house on the Island of Orleans to Dumas Buildings at the foot of the hill in the lower town is four miles & three-quarters of a mile of consequence. The following persons are condemned to pay, viz :

John Halstead.	3 bot ^s Madeira.
John Lees,	6 bot ^s d ^o
John Aitken,	3 bot ^s d ^o
John Melvin,*	2 do ^s towards supper.
Mich ^l Flanagin,	2 do ^s d ^o

W^m Miers won 2 do^s of James Munro, but as I had not that bet in my list, I know not whether it is to go towards supper or not. This day the postman from Montreal brought but a very small mail, no N. York mail, but a report prevails that the Dec^r packet is arr^d at N. York, and that the Bill for the Government of Quebec is repealed.

12. Sunday. I at home all day.

16. A variety of weather, pleasant & moderate in the morning. Blew fresh with a small flight of snow before noon, and some very heavy gusts of wind before night and cleared off in the evening. I dined with Finlay. Cole with M^{rs} Warren. Cap^t Freeman and a party of ab^t 20 at Lorette this day.

17. The party to Lorette returned at ab^t 4 o'clock this morning. Cole wth Gregory went to Indian Lorette this afternoon.

19. Sunday. I at home till 2 o'clock then went to the upper town, and dined with M^r & M^{rs} Rowe.

20. This day took Duvall into the office to instruct him in sending off the Courier. I dined with Finlay.

22. The Dec^r Packet arrived this morning. Nothing by it very material but the King's Speech at the opening

*An auctioneer in Quebec.

of the New Parliament (in some of the English Papers) by which it seems as if His Majesty & his Ministers were determined to enforce the American Acts. I dined at home.

23. I dined with Finlay. Began to blow & snow towards evening and grew very tempestuous. This even^g L^t Freeman of the 7th Reg^t finished his walk of twenty miles a day for five days successively on snow shoes and then went to the Assembly at Prentices & danced. M^r & M^{rs} Finlay at the Assembly this evening.

24. A very heavy storm of snow, the wind at N. E. and blew very fresh. Such a storm we have not had this winter before, neither have we had so much snow fall. I shut the office at 2 o'clock, went home, and was out no more this day or evening.

25. The storm abated but the clouds look wild and heavy yet. No Courier this day. I dined at home.

26. Sunday. The Courier arriv'd early this morning with a New York mail of the 9th inst. The N. York papers bring us the Kings speech.

28. I dined at home. A great rout at Gen^l Carleton's, being Shrove Tuesday or begin^g of Lent.

March 1, 1775. Disagreeable blowing weather with some snow. I dined at home.

2. I dined with M^r and M^{rs} Finlay.

4. Maj^r Skene & I dined with Finlay. M^{rs} Finlay dined at Sillery. The lake not yet broken. Lester* set off for Montreal.

5. Sunday. I at home most of this day. Dined at home. Took a ride this afternoon with Gregory, Miers & Cap^t Galway to the Island of Orleans. N. B. This the first time I have been in a cariole this winter. E. R. Willcocks & J. Cole set off for Montreal.

6. Thick heavy air with some rain which rots the snow and makes the walking very dangerous & disagreeable. I dined with M^r & M^{rs} Finlay. M^{rs} Scott & Sally Phillips dined there.

8. No York mail. I dined at home.

9. I dined wth M^r & M^{rs} Finlay.

*Capt. Lester, a merchant in Quebec, represented the town in the House of Assembly in the first Parliament and later.

11. The Courier arrived this morning early with a small Montreal mail only. I dined at home.

12. Sunday. I at the office writing all this day. Dined at home.

15. I dined at home. Went to Finlay's in order to set off wth Maj^r A. P. Skene. Rained so much we put off our departure 'till tomorrow morning. M^{rs} Scott & Maj^r Skene dined with M^r & M^{rs} Finlay.

16. Clear, cold morn^g. The major & self set off for our journey. Found the road very bad. Reached Dechambault this evening just after dark. Stayed here, supped, play'd cards and went to bed ab^t 9 o'clock.

17. This morn^g between 1 & 2 o'clock Dubord, the postman from Quebec, arrived at Dechambault. We went off with him ab^t three & went on the ice from this and so continued to Montreal tho the postman at Cape Madelane was afraid to venture his horse on the ice, as Lanaudiere & Scott had near lost their horses on that passage the night before. Dubord insisted on going and drove. We got safe over to Three Rivers ab^t 10 o'clock, where had beef stakes & a glass of wine. Labadie from Montreal did not arrive till 12 o'clock this day, & he gave a most terrible acc^t of the road he had come and as Maj^r Skene wanted to see the Iron works there, we stayed. I dined wth Cap^t Stahan and Doc^r Miller of y^e 26th Reg^t. Aaron Hart & wife dined there. Kneller* & W^m Grant† the lawyer arr^d here from Quebec. J. Williams‡ arr^d likewise this even^g ab^t 8 o'clock. Skene & I lodged at Sills's. Clear & so cold as to continue freezing.

18. Left Three Rivers between 6 & 7 o'clock. Took to the ice. Traveled this day to Arpentinge where we arr^d at 7 o'clock when it grew dark & the man would not take us across to the Island. This day we have had very good traveling excepting off & on the ice, the edge of which being covered with water, made it very difficult. About half-way from Le Veltrie, we met M^{rs} Prentice going down.

*Attorney General. Died in 1776.

†Barrister in Quebec. Receiver General of the Province in 1770 and member of the Assembly in 1792.

‡Secretary of the Legislative Council and member of the Assembly.

19. Sunday. Set off ab^t 7 o'clock for Montreal where we arriv'd ab^t 10 o'clock. Came chiefly on the ice. It began to snow ab^t an hour before we arr^d. Met Mr Dunn* & Miss Mabane, Doc^r Mabane† & M^{rs} Venture ab^t two or three miles from Montreal in their way to Quebec. Rec^d some letters which were in the office for me. Cole & J. C. Minot‡ called to see me at Ferrises, where Skene & I had put up. They then set off for Isle Jesu. I dined wth Antill, Vanderheyden & wife. Stanhouse & wife dined wth us. This evening White & Vanderhayden had a small boxing match at the Coffee House. It began ab^t a paper which was drop't a night or two ago in the Coffee House. We supped at Antills. Several scurulous papers have been thrown ab^t lately.

20. The ice between this & the other side grows very rotten and bad. I dined wth E. W. Gray.§ Cap^t Williams, Doc^r Huntly, Maj^r Skene & Ermantinger there likewise. We spent the even^g there.

21. I dined with John Stanhouse. Spent the evening & sup'd there. Several more of the scurulous papers thrown into peoples doors last even^g reflecting on the Select society and actors in the plays.

22. Made a bargain wth Claud La Bonté whose turn it was to go off wth the New York mail to stay for us 'till the next post which goes off on Sunday morning. Dined with Jn^o Blake.

23. Dined with Ermentinger. Lester, Gray, Todd, Woolsey & Harrison dined there. W. & self drank tea with M^{rs} Stanhouse. Nothing material this day.

24. N. E. snowstorm this morning. Dined with Jos. Torrey. No great market at Montreal. Drank tea with Torry. Spent the even^g at the Coffee House.

25. I dined with Price|| & Haywood. R. Meredith and J. Torry dined there.

*Hon. Thomas Dunn, member of the Legislative Council of Quebec and for a time Administrator in Chief.

†Member of the first Legislative Council in Quebec, which was appointed in 1764.

‡An American sympathizer. He sent a cargo of wheat to the Americans from Quebec.

§Postmaster of Montreal and sheriff of the district.

||A merchant in Montreal and agent in Canada of the American Congress.

26. Sunday. Dined with Alexander Henry. Claud La Bonté return'd from S^t Johns.

27. Dined with Joseph Torry on roasted mutton & potatoes.

28. Dined wth M^r & M^{rs} Gray. L. Ermentinger dined there. M^r & M^{rs} Er. wth M^r & M^{rs} Burk & self spent the evening there. Played at whist. Won 7 dollars. Went home ab^t 12 o'clock.

29. I dined wth Jacob Vanderheyden. Meredith, Jordan, Stanhouse and old M^r Livingstone* dined there. Had a report by the post from Quebec that an express had arr^d there from Boston by the way of Kennebeck to M^r Z^y McCauley. His business as yet unknown.

30. Maj^r Skene & self set off wth Claud La Bonté, the postman, ab^t 10 o'clock. Crossed the river in a canoe a little above Montreal. Rode in a cariole from where we landed to La Perrie ab^t 17 leagues. Arr^d there ab^t 2 o'clock. There we met one Brown† who came from N. England to know if the Indians or Canadians were coming down on the backs of the Inhabitants of the American Governments. He had two men which come with him as guides. They were gone to the Indian Village above Montreal. Brown set off for Montreal. The men return'd this evening. We sent off the man wth the mail & our luggage on a sled for S^t Johns. We staid at M^r Phillips this night. Ab^t 12 o'clock this night the priest died here.

31. The Maj^r & self set off on horseback ab^t 8 o'clock this morn^g for S^t Johns where I arrived ab^t noon, the Maj^r sometime before. La Bonté got in there ab^t 8 this morn^g. Dined and set off at 2 o'clock P. M. Just as we set off, La Ramie, the postman, arr^d & with him came across the lakes, J. W. Swift & Cap^t Napier & son, the former 50 days from Phil^a. At two leagues from S^t

*An American sympathizer who maintained a correspondence with them through some Indians. His son operated with Montgomery before Quebec, leading 200 or 300 Canadians.

†Captain Brown. Sent in spring of 1775 to Canada to feel disposition of Canadians and Indians. Joined Montgomery, and with Livingstone led the detachment which captured Chambly. Was at siege of Quebec. After retreat of Americans, he brought accusations against Arnold. Was killed fighting against Sir John Johnston in Mohawk Valley, October 19, 1780.

Johns met Ant^e La Bonté with the Jan^y mail. He has a box for Gov^r Carleton which, I imagine, contains his Commission & instructions on the new establishment. This evening reached the river at Cole & lodged at one La Bontés.

April 1, 1775. Saturday. Very pleasant morning. Set off at sunrise. Ab^t 9 o'clock met another postman with a New York mail. This day had to draw our canoe with the baggage near three leagues across different patches of ice on the north side of Point au Roche. One Laframboise who was with us, left us & went home. After that we drew our canoe about 2 miles on the ice. Went round Point au Roche, built us a wigwam, made a fire and sup'd & went to sleep.

2. A cold night which made a very thick scum of ice this morn^g. Left our lodgings ab^t sunrise. Met some Indians at Cumberlandhead, drunk in a canoe haul'd up. Went on shore. At a house here was told that another postman past last evening thro: the bush having haul'd his boat up in a swamp, so that four N. York mails will arrive (as I imagined) at Quebec on Wednesday next. The two officers which have been out so long from Montreal a hunting, past last even^g, the same way with the Post, on their return to Montreal. We arriv'd at Hay & Glennys ab^t 2 o'clock. Met Cap^t Hazen* there with one

*Brigadier-General Moses Hazen was born in the year 1733, and, it is supposed, belonged originally to Haverhill, Massachusetts; he served as lieutenant in Captain McCurdie's company of Rangers in the expedition against Louisbourg, in 1758; after that officer's death became a captain of the company and commanded Fort Frederic, on the river St. John, where he laid waste the neighboring country. He accompanied Wolfe to Quebec in 1759, and distinguished himself the next year, near that city, in a brush with the French and in the battle of Sillery, 28th April, 1760. *Knox's Journal*, I., 230, 320, 353; II., 279, 293. As a reward for his services he received a commission of lieutenant in the 44th regiment of foot on 21st February, 1761 (*Army List*), but was placed on half-pay in 1763, after which he settled, it is said, near St. Johns, and furnished supplies to General Montgomery in 1775, on his invasion of Canada. Hazen's property was, in consequence, destroyed by the Loyalists and Regulars, whereupon he offered his services to Congress, by which he was appointed, in January, 1776, Colonel of the 2d Canadian, or the Congress' own regiment. He was in command of the district of Montreal the following season, but returned to Ticonderoga in the summer, where he was tried by court martial on charges brought by General Arnold, and honorably acquitted. 4 *American Archives*,

White, a young man from New England. Dined here. Hazen and W. went off just after dinner in a batteau for Cumberlandhead. Most of this day's journey has been thro: a scum of ice which I was afraid would cut thro: our cannoes bottom. M^{rs} Hay is here. Had the ruff stuff taken off our cannoes bottom. H. & G. has a fine parcel of oak timber cut for ship building. The wind blew fresh this afternoon from the northward. We stayed here till the morn^g.

3. We set off ab^t 7 o'clock. Took another hand with us from H. & G. The wind rose very high from y^e northward. We went ab^t 2 leagues. Was then obliged to put on shore where we made a fire on a point of land. The fire ran among the leaves & dry underbrush for upwards of a mile & spread across the whole point. The wind abated something ab^t 3 o'clock. We embraced the opp^y & put off, but before we had compleated two leagues more the wind rose to such a heighth that we were obliged to go on shore & encamp for the night which was indeed very cold.

4. Sun rose very clear. Last even^g we left a pint black jack ab^t half full of water. This morn^g the water was froze into a solid body. How cold must it have been? We set off at 6 o'clock this morn^g, the wind blew fresh. Put ashore at the point of Peru Bay to eat a morsel ab^t 8 o'clock. The wind very high. Called a Councel to consider whether we should attempt to pass the Bay or not. Concluded to venture. Set off and got safe to the opposite point ab^t 11 o'clock and glad were we that we had escaped a ducking. The Maj^r and self with the man from H. & G. for a guide, took to the woods & walkt to Willsborough, and arriv'd there at Stratfords about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 o'clock P.M., where we got tea with good bread & butter. Began to snow just after we arriv'd at the House. We had a partridge roasted for supper which we killed coming thro: the woods. La Bonté arriv'd wth the canoe ab^t 9 o'clock this evening.

V. 751; 5 *ibid.*, I., 1124. He spent the following winter at Albany, recruiting. In June, 1781, he was appointed Brigadier-General, and retired from the army at the close of the war. He died at Troy, New York, on the 3d of February, 1803, in the 70th year of his age. Allen says he died on the 30th January, 1802.

5. Set off ab^t 7 o'clock. Spit of snow most of this day. We reached Crown Point between 5 & 6 o'clock. A small strip of ice a little above the point stopt our proceeding any further for this night. A postman from York past a little before we arriv'd.

6. Hired a p^r of oxen to draw our canoe & baggage beyond the ice. Walkt on from Crown Point to Four Mile Point and waited there the coming of La Bonté. While there Jos. La Bonté from Skenesborough with a N. York mail came in. Got a paper from the portmanteau. Took to the canoe and arrived at three mile point ab^t 4 o'clock P. M. The Maj^r & self took to the bush & walked to Ticonderoga, where we arrived between 6 & 7 o'clock P. M. Went to the fort & drank tea with Cap^t D. La Place & Lady. The two Miss Skenes there & D. Tucker. We also supped there. Flights of snow & heavy squalls of wind all this day.

7. Between 6 & 7 o'clock Claud La Bonté arrived with his canoe & our baggage. Sent him off. The Maj^r & self remained at Ticonderoga.

8-9. Pleasant weather. Could not obtain a passage from Ticonderoga.

10. Monday. The maj^r & two young ladies wth D. Tucker, Mr. Brooks,* who came to Ticonderoga last even^g & self left Ti: in a Batteau with Corporal & 4 soldiers. After meeting with some difficulty get^g thro: the ice arrived at Skenesborough ab^t midnight.

12. A very disagreeable storm of snow and ice. The cattle at Skenesborough very poor. No fodder for them & many died.

14. Left Skenesborough ab^t 9 o'clock this morn^g in c^o with the postman, Douglas. We had two very poor fed horses. Very bad roads & squawley weather. Arr^d at Fort Edward ab^t 7 o'clock. I stayed at Sq^r Smith's this night. The postman went on.

15. Smith lent me H. Finlay's horse (which was left in his care last Fall) to go to Albany with & by my watch I set off at 1½ past 8 o'clock this morn^g, the road in some places bad, in others very good. Arr^d at Mr. Neils at Saratoga (w^{ch} is 11 or 12 miles) 5 minutes before 12

*A chaplain in the Quebec garrison.

o'clock. Order^d hay & oats for the horse but he could eat neither and laid himself down in very great pain. Had him bled in the mouth & gave him a dose of sut, salt, etc. He remained in great pain all this day. At night turned him into the barn on a bed of straw.

16. Sunday. My horse this morn^g much better but he could not eat either hay or oats. I had a mess of bran mixed for him which he eat very heartily off. I went on & hired a horse ab^t a mile from Mr. Neils to carry me to Still Water. The same horse I was obliged to take to Half Moon where I did not arrive 'till dark.

17. Set off with my yesterdays horse and inquired for a mile or two before I could get any conveyance. At last a Dutchman would favor me so far as to takle his wagon & take me within 4 miles of Albany for a dollar. Arriv'd there at 11 o'clock. Horse-racing there. Could not hire any conveyance to take me to Albany. N.B. The Dutchman with his waggon was going to the horse race or should not have had the conveyance of his wagon.

18. Overcast & showery this morn^g. Ab^t 10 o'clock this morn^g, a waggon coming by I got a cast in it to Albany. Gave the man a pot of beer for my passage. It rained very hard with some thunder & lightning. Arriv'd at Albany ab^t noon, wet to the skin. Put up at the Widow Vernons.

19. High wind & raw cold but no rain. M^r Monier went with me to buy or hire a horse. Was obliged to buy. Gave 42 1-2 dollars for one of 5 years old. Borrowed 8 dollars of Mr. Monier for which I drew on E. W. Gray of Montreal & desired him to send the money by the first post. I spent this even^g wth Monier & wife.

20. The wind very high & river so full could not cross the ferry.

21. Pleasant weather. Crossed the ferry at Albany ab^t 11 o'clock. Rode ab^t 36 miles this day & lodged at Claverie.

22. Rain this morn^g. Did not set off till 9 o'clock. Stopt at one Youngs at Barrington. There heard that an express came up yesterday which bro^t an account of a scurmish between some of the regular troops and some of the country people. At this place the drum was beating

to arms and several people were muster'd, armed. Went on to Springs at the entrance of the green wood. Slept here for the night. Had here a confirmation of the skirmish, with this addition, that the Regulars were drove back from Lexington to Boston and that they went out to stop Hancock & Adams from going to the Congress at Philadelphia & to destroy magazines that were form'd. Thunder, lightning & rain this ev^g & during good part of the night. The latter part of this days road as bad as I ever travelled.

23. Sunday. Rain this morn^g. Set off ab^t 8 o'clock with two men who were going to Roxberry or Cambridge to hear the particulars of the engagement. Various reports this day. Lodged near Springfield.

24. Rode ab^t 2 mile & crossed the ferry & breakfasted at Springfield. A rainy morn^g. Adams the postman here. He gave us an acc^t of his mails being taken from the Post Office at Hartford, Gen^l Gage's letters taken out & burnt with ab^t 300 of Revington's papers.* We set off with 4 men, three from Connecticut & one Doc^r Bennet from Birkshire county all after news. Met many return'd soldiers & horses & others going down we overtook. The roads very full of travellers. Lodged at Spencer.

25. Clear & very warm weather. At Worcester ab^t 11 o'clock stopt wth [John] Hancock and Sam^l Adams. This day we past a great number of Troops going to Cambridge. Lodged at Sudbury.

26. Breakfasted at Watertown. Went through Cambridge where I was detained two or three hours waiting for a pass. At last known by Col^o Dudley Sargent. Dined wth Gen^l [Artemas] Ward & his officers. Col^o Sargent ab^t 3 o'clock set off with me for Salem. He informed me that most of the people from Salem were removed into the country. Arriv'd at Salem just at dusk. Found all our folks at home excepting Peggy,† who wth Mrs. Higginson,‡ her mother Cleveland, and her two sisters were gone to Portsmouth.

*Rivington's New York Gazetteer, a Tory newspaper.

†His sister Margaret, who had married Stephen Cleveland of Salem.

‡Mrs. Susanna, wife of Stephen Higginson and daughter of Rev. Aaron Cleveland.

27. Took a walk round the town. Saw many people, knew but few, was not known by many. Great numbers of people leaving Marblehead, Cape Ann & Salem.

28. Mr. Good[a]le & wife wth Miss Sus^a Higginson, Mr^s [William] Pincheon & family, wth several more sailed this morn^g for Nantucket.

29. Various reports relating [to] Boston affairs & the Camp at Cambridge. One hour, Gen^r Gage will let the people out of Boston, then alter his mind and put a stop to their going.

30. An acc^t arr^d this day that the New York people had secured 1500 stand of arms and all the stores purchased for Government.

May 1, 1775. Several people arr^d at Salem by water from Boston last even^g. Dined at the old Esq^{rs} with Billy's widow. Drank tea wth Mrs. Cabot.

2. I in c^o wth N. S[parhawk] & mother set off for Portsmouth. Dined at Newbury where I was stopt an hour or two by the Committee of Safety, by which means I did not arrive at Portsmouth till after 9 o'clock in the ev^g. Met by the watch going into town. Exam^d by some of the Committee at Peggy's just after my arrival. Questioned again ab^t 12 o'clock this night and had a watch round the house all night and five or six people to examine me in the morn^g. Dined with Peggy.

5. Left Portsmouth this morn^g. Dined at Newbury. N. Sparhawk & W. Pike proceeded to Salem. I staid with Bromfield & spent the even^g with S. Hooper.

6. Left Newbury this morn^g & arr^d at Salem this afternoon.

7. Sunday. Pleasant weather this week.

13. This day S[tephen] Cleveland sailed in a brig^a for the West Indies. Sparhawk and I went down the harbour with him.

16. C. Touzel sail^d.

21. Sunday. In the morn^g heard noisy Parson Porter.* In the afternoon went to hear young Smith. N. Gardner to meeting wth me.

*Possibly Rev. Nathaniel Porter, born in Topsfield, in July appointed as chaplain in a N. H. regiment.

23. Heard of a skirmish at Waymouth between the country people there & some regular soldiers which were sent for Hay on Grape Island. The soldiers drove off & the hay burnt.

24. Part of the Salem Comp^y marched this afternoon for Cambridge. [Samuel] Porter* set off for Cambridge.

25. Thursday. I set off from Salem ab^t noon for Cambridge, where I arr^d ab^t 4 o'clock, P. M. Found Porter just ready to mount his horse & return to Salem. He stopt a short time for me to get a pass from General Ward which I did. Then he set off & it was agreed that I should meet him at Reding this even^g. Lodged at Reding.

26. Put up this evening at one Shepherd's at Sowhegan.

27. Pleasant this day. Went through Willton, Peterborough & to Dublin where we lodged at one Morses.

28. Sunday, Went to Wymans at Keene where we spent the day.

29. Arriv'd this even^g at Whites in Charlestown or N^o 4. This even^g Porter & I settled our expenses & he determined to return to Salem.

30. This morn^g I hired a man to go with me part of the way thro: the woods. We breakfasted here and Porter changed his mind and went on with me. We reached Coffins at Cavendish at dark.

31. Pleasant weather but the roads bad. We reached to one Buttoms at Otter Creek ab^t sundown. This night was a very heavy thunder shower. Here Porter was wavering again.

June 1, 1775. Porter set off with me again. We put up towards night at one Steven's at Pitford. Just after we had got in, arriv'd a man from Ticonderoga who said it was impossible for anyone to pass the lakes. This so startled Porter that he again resolved to proceed with me no farther but return to Buttom's & from thence proceed

*Samuel Porter, a Salem lawyer, an addresser of Hutchinson, and loyalist, who was living in London in 1776, where he died in 1798. It is said that he indicated to Lieut.-Col. Leslie which street he should take on reaching Salem, Feb. 26, 1775, while on the way to the North Bridge.

to Albany. I gave him a letter to the Postmaster there, J. Monier.

2. I discharged my man this morn^g & he returned and Porter with him.* I now had to travel on by myself and as the sun got high it grew very hot. I reached to one Wiswall's ab^t 3 o'clock, P. M. Here I turned my horse out to feed and remained here.

3. Set off for Ticonderoga. The road being much shorter & better than going thro: the woods to Crown Point. Besides I had com^y to Ti: where we arr^d at 3 o'clock, P. M. The command^g officer here is Cap^t Herick. Col^{os} Allen and Easton came to Ti: this even^g.

4. Sunday. Spent the day at Ti: Two companies arr^d across Lake George. The Sloop, scho^r, &c. sailed down the Lake this day.

5. Ab^t 11 o'clock A. M. I left Ti: in a large boat which was going to Crown Point with a comp^y of soldiers. Arr^d at the Point ab^t 3 o'clock, P. M. Put up at Lewis's. One Cap^t Noble commands here.

6. I at the Point this day. This even^g arr^d from Ti: Col^s [Ethan] Allen & Easton wth a com^y of men & one Cap^t Brown from Cambridge with letters for Col^o Arnold came with him. A thunder squawl this evening.

7. After getting a pass from Cap^t Noble I went on board a batteau which was taking Cap^t Brown with letters to Arnold who is on board the sloop on Lake Champlain there. There was besides Brown, Cap^t Greaves, L^t Jones, a brother of Brown's & 12 soldiers besides myself. This day we met the three Stockbridge Indians who were taken by Sam^l McKay at S^t John's, bound & carried to Montreal. The marks of the cords in their arms still remained & they shew to Capt. Brown, & they beged that if ever McKay should fall into the hands of the American forces, he might be delivered to the Stockbridge Indians. Stopped at one Parsons's and slept.

8. P. M. reached to Point au Feire. Here we stayed this night. A very heavy thunder squawl & rain just after we had got in.

*In a letter from Mrs. Edward Augustus Holyoke of Salem, written from Nantucket, June 21, 1775, appears the following: "We have just had an account that Mr. Porter the lawyer was shot going to Quebeck with a letter."

9. This morn^g heard three large guns from the sloop & schooner which were a few miles nearer St Johns than we were. Got on board our boat & went for them. We past the schooner as she was under sail & three batteaus. A little below there we saw the sloop under sail & another batteau. Went on board the sloop. Breakfasted with Col^o Benedict Arnold on chocolate, fresh venison roasted, & fresh fish broil'd. I was then set on shore at P^t au Feire at Col^o Christie's house in which lived an old Scotchman by himself. The wind was so high till near 1 o'clock P. M. that we could not stir with a canoe. Then the wind abated a little & he went with us in a canoe 2 leagues to a French house where we arr^d ab^t 3 o'clock, P. M. I was then within ab^t 22 miles of St Johns but could not hire a Frenchman to go there with me. They were all afraid of being stopt by the regular troops there. Ab^t dusk a Frenchman put me on a raft that was going down belonging to Hay & Glenney. The raft was going down wth the stream all night.

10. At dusk within ab^t 2 miles of St Johns, a boat with a sergeant & 8 men, armed, came to us & abused the master of the raft for letting his canoe go on shore with two men who went to fetch dry stuff to make a smoke to drive the mosquitos away. This boat took me to St Johns where I fell in with a number of old acquaintances amongst whom was Doc^r Gill who provided me a bed. I supp'd wth the mess of officers. Beef, cheese & porter.

11. Sunday. Breakfasted wth Doc^r Gill. Spent an hour or two in viewing the lines throw^g up at St Johns under the directions of Cap^t Williams of the train. Hired a horse & set off for Lapireire ab^t 11 o'clock. Arr^d there ab^t 3 o'clock P. M. Dined at Mr Killups. From there went across the river to the Island of Montreal in a batteau with 5 hands. The wind very high. Arr^d in the town of Montreal at 6 o'clock P. M. & immediately waited on Gov^r Carleton (who was at the India House) and shew him the letters & newspapers which I had with me. The former he looked at & returned to me directly without breaking a seal & wth liberty to deliver as soon as I pleased. The papers he said he would be glad I would leave with L^t Gov^r Cramake and I comply'd with the re-

quest. Paid a visit to Mr. Ermantinger & many others. Supped with E. W. Gray & lodged at his house. N. B. Gray told me the disgrace w^{ch} had lately happened in a family of our acquaintance.

12. Breakfasted wth M^r Blake, then with M^r Torrey and family. At noon agreed to set off for Quebec this afternoon wth L^t Layard of the 7th Reg^t. Dined wth E. W. Gray. Left Montreal between 6 & 7 o'clock this ev^g. A clear fine night. Road the whole of it.

13. Arr^d at McKay's at Berthier just at daylight. Dined at Three Rivers. Supped and lodged at Dechambeaux. N. B. The troops at S^t Johns are parts of the 7th & 26th Reg^{ts} and some artillery.

14. Left Dechambeaux ab^t 7 o'clock this morn^g. I stopt at Holland House* ab^t 2 P. M. M^{rs} Finlay in town. I came in on horseback. N. B. L^t Gov^r Cramake did not give me my newspapers till just as I was going off from Montreal & then with a caution who I let see them. Bouchette in whom came Eb^r Torrey, arr^d here last Saturday. Watts & his wife came in the same vessel.

15. I dined wth Jacob Rowe.† M^{rs} Rowe just got ab^t from lay^g in wth a daughter. M^{rs} Scott has a son.

16. Dined wth J. Hanna & wife.

18. Sunday. Went to meeting to hear Parson Henry. Just as I had returned to the lower town from kirk, came on a very heavy thunder shower but it did not last long. Dined at home.

20. This day arr^d the ship Prince of Wales, Cap^t H^r Fournieux from London & the brig^a Cap^t Bibbens from Nfland.

22. At procession this day.

25. Sunday. J. C. Minot‡ arr^d this morning from La Chenie. The Brig^a Sally, Tho^s Thompson, arr^d from Boston ab^t 3 o'clock P. M. in which came passengers Jon^a Clarke, M^{rs} M^cNeil with four children & two negros. They bro^t the first acc^o that was heard here of Putnam

*The residence of Hon. Hugh Finlay. It was occupied by Montgomery as his headquarters, and stood two miles west of St. Johns gate.

†Merchant in Quebec; also Deputy Provost Marshal.

‡Probably Jonas Clark Minot, son of Stephen Minot, merchant of Boston.

with a party of men taking the cattle off Nodles Island and destroying an armed schooner at Chelsea on the night between the 27th & 28th of May last.

28. Wednesday. Nothing material by the Post. At noon was smuggled into Simpson's Coffee House attend'd by the father & sponserers as assistants, a letter wrote to Gen^r Carleton begging the fav^r of him to make them (the subscribers) soldiers in the room of the Regular Troops w^{ch} the letter says it was necessary he should remove from this and the house being at that time very full, many signed it without reading; & many signed because a number of names to it with whom they were acquainted, some because they would not be thought singular, & others for fear of affronting the person who asked them, but most of them before night would have been very glad their names had not been there as the Gov^r could not get any of y^e French to enlist 'till they saw what the English would do. This method was pitched on as the readiest and most likely to succeed; by some of the Government party, and was then produced to the French as a president and in a great measure answered, for this evening 18 or 20 of the leading men of the French at Quebec had a meeting at Prentices.

29. St Peter's Day. As the French people came from church ab^t noon, great numbers went immediately to Prentices where a letter much of the same tenor & stile was signed by them as I have been informed and both letters or the copyes of them with the names of the signers were sent by this days post to General Carleton (who is now at Montreal) to make the most he can of it there. This day I was informed that the Gen^r had sent off from Montreal ab^t 30 vagabond savages which he picked up to join the troops at St Johns, but that the Huron tribe had refused going. Snow Hero, Cap^t Le Masurier, arr^d from Falmouth.

30. The Brig^a Lady Tyrconnell, David Kinloch, arr^d from Spain. This evening arr^d a small Schooner, Oliver White, master, which left Salem a few days before me. He has been to Casco Bay and Chaleur Bay.

July 1, 1775. Labadie the postman arr^d at the office ab^t 6 o'clock this morn^g. He brings an acc^t that the Ca-

nadians at La Chenie, Lassumption and the villages around there had rose to the number of 11 or 1200 men, armed with pitch forks, hows, etc. & drove off the people whom Gen^r Carleton has sent from Montreal as officers for that militia, declar^g they would (if they should be formed into a militia) have English men to lead them or some of their neighbours such as they should choose. One Jolly was taken up as ringleader but the Gov^r after hearing the story released him & gave him a cap^{ts} comⁿ. We also heard that a gentleman from Phil^a, who came across the lakes with Prince of Montreal, was com^g down to Quebec with Doby, and that Doby had a letter from Finlay to M^{rs} Finlay. Jn^o Blake, Dobie, & one M^r Nichols arri^d at Prentices ab^t 8 o'clock this morn^g. M^r Nichols tells me M^r Finlay was gone from New York by water for Boston where he proposed getting a passage round to Quebec by water. M^{rs} Finlay came to town this forenoon. M^r Finlay writes her word that he was cruising in a frigate wth Cap^t Montigree, for a fortnight, to meet with the packet from England, that it might not fall into the hands of the people from S^o Carolina who had fitted out a vessel to intercept her. Gen^r Carleton has stopt a great number of newspapers at Montreal which were bro^t by this M^r Nichols. I saw a N. York paper which was forw^d by Finlay to Scott, of the 1st June. Nothing very material in it but that the Congress at N. York disapprove of any one's coming into this province of Quebec & disturbing the quiet of the people here. I saw an Essex Gazette bro^t by Cap^t White of the 1st June in which is the recantations of many Salem people who signed an address to Gov^r Hutchinson. Among the names was Nath^l Dabney.*

2. I went to hear Parson Henry. M^{rs} McNeil & daughter wth Cap^t Watts dined wth us.

4. John Blake dined with us. No material occurrences.

5. Wednesday. Dubord came to the office wth the Montreal mail ab^t 6 o'clock. Had an acc^t by him of one Sinclair, a gunsmith, shooting a man at Montreal last Monday morn^g. Sinclair is in goal. The quarrel was

*A physician of Salem who went to England in 1777 and died before the peace.

ab^t a house that the Frenchman had bo^t and Sinclair lived in & would not leave. The owner to get out the tenant began taking the roof off & the tenant shot him. With tide this day arr^d Cap^t N. LeMasurier, in the ship Mary from Falmouth & W^m Jackson in the Brig^a from London. N. B. This is one of the missing vessels out 40 odd days. Also Sanderson in the Brig^a from Milford in a short passage. By him we have an acc^t that y^e American Acts will not be repealed. Lord Camden's speech in the House of Lords on the Quebec petition for the repeal of the Canada bill but to no effect. An acc^t of the death of the Queen of Denmark at Zell. Several heavy showers this afternoon.

6. Toward even^g a gentⁿ from N. York but last from Nfland came across from Point Levi. I shew him the way to N. Bayard. He gives an acc^t of several vessels being in the river, among which are two transports from Boston. The master of one he says gives an acc^t of a battle being fought between the Regular troops & Provincials. The particulars he could not learn but they saw nineteen boat load of wounded Regulars bro^t back to Boston. Report by some is that the fight was at Dorchester Hill, others say at Roxberry. This even^g the two Torreys, Jn^o & Eb^r set off for Montreal.

7. This day four or five topsail vessels arrived, a transport or two from Boston. The report off the Cap^t of one of the transports is that the battle was at Charlestown hill; that a party of Provincials were on the ev^g of the 17th entrenching themselves there & a party of the Regulars were sent out to dislodge them. On their first appearance the town of Charlestown was set on fire & wholly destroyed. That in forc^g the entrenchments great numbers he believes were killed on both sides but that the entrenchments were carried by the Regulars with the loss of about 300 men. Among the killed is Maj^r Pitcairn, Capt. Johnson & Capt. Smith. Gen. Howe with Maj^r Pitcairn's son wounded. What the loss was on the other side he can't tell. By a mem^o which the mate of this transport has in the log-book, the battle lasted one hour & sixteen minutes and the regulars had upwards of two thousand men killed & wounded.

8. This morn^g arr^d at Quebec, H^y Boone. The vessel he was coming from London in was cast away on some part of Nfland, vessel & cargo lost. The vessel was loaded for M^r Drummond. The chief of her cargo was two stills & a number of bricks for a new distillery M^r Drummond intended setting up. M^r McCulloch came down from Montreal wth the post w^{ch} arr^d this morn^g. He brings an acc^t that Brook Watson,* Young Tonnencourt,† Perras were arr^d at Montreal from N. York in a short passage across Lake Champlain. Watson brought a newspaper wth an acc^t of the battle at Charlestown w^{ch} the Provincials had seventy killed & no more. That the Regulars had five hundred killed & upwards besides wounded & we here seem as yet in the dark whether the Regulars carried the trenches or not. Misses Skenes are arr^d at Montreal.

9. This morn^g arr^d here old Maj^r Skeene's sister & his two daughters. Borrowed J. Welles‡ caleche & hired another & went with the sister & eldest daughter to Holland House. It was so late before we got out M^{rs} Finlay was come to town to church. It began to rain between twelve & one o'clock and continued rain^g the most part of this afternoon. Went by S. P's invitation to M^{rs} Phillip's wth the Misses Skenes where I see Miss Salley for the first time since my arrival but such an alteration in the looks of a person of her years ab^t the body I think I never saw.

10. Pleasant weather. Toward evening M^r Finlay arr^d across the river from Point Levy. He left the transport in which he came from Boston in at Bic & came up by land. He bro^t with him the April Packet. He se[n]t for me to Prentices at ½ past 11 o'clock at night. Dunn, Collins, Scott & S. Phillips was with him. Brook Watson and Gallsop§ arr^d from Montreal at 12 o'clock in the night. At 1 o'clock I sent off Tupin as express with

*A London merchant, afterwards Lord Mayor of London.

†An official under the French regime, who, after the conquest, became head of the militia for Three Rivers district. He was a man of considerable wealth.

‡A Quebec merchant, who joined the Americans.

§Allsopp.

Gen^r Carleton's letters w^{ch} came in the April Packet and the letters for the Gentⁿ at Montreal.

11. Finlay very unwell wth a cold, oppression at the stomach & a fever. Dpc^r Badelair* went out to see him. Nothing material. Various are the reports of the battle at Charlestown.

12. Wednesday. Nothing new by the Post. N. E. wind & thick weather this afternoon. J. Rowe & self walked out to Finlay. He is very unwell but better than he was yesterday. He was blooded this morn^g. One of the Transports arriv'd this even^g from Boston but sailed before the battle at Charlestown & brings us nothing new.

13. This day I took the follow^g acc^t of the troops in Boston, etc. from a mem^o I chanced to meet with, viz.

"7 Reg^{ts} of F. & 1 of Dragoons arrived added to 11 Reg^{ts} besides 1200 marines.

"'Tis reported the 17th June and the Rebels beat from the heights of Charlestown.

"Now on the present establishment there is but 500 men in a Reg^t so that allow^g them to be compleat the 7 Reg^{ts} & 1 Reg^t dragoons will am^t to 4000
 "11 Reg^{ts} will be 5500
 "Add the marines 1200
 "will make but 13,700 men. Many from these may be deducted for killed & wounded in two or three late scurmishes."

The clouds appeared very heavy, thick and black towards noon. Ab^t $\frac{1}{2}$ past one o'clock P. M. there was a very severe flash of lightning & a very heavy clap of Thunder, by which a mast of a sloop laying off in the road was struck and shivered & split to pieces as well as the main-top-gallant mast, main-top-mast, & main-mast of a ship which lay near the sloop, but no lives lost. I dined at Prentices. Jn^o Blake set off for Montreal.

15. This day Malcolm Fraser† formerly a L^t in the 78th Reg^t shew me half a Phil^a paper in w^{ch} was printed a letter he had wrote some time past w^{ch} was intercepted at Crown Point giving some acc^t of the dispositions of the Inhabitants & people in this province. I believe it was

*Surgeon Major.

†Served at Plains of Abraham, afterwards became colonel.

given him by M^r Dunn who I imagine had rec^d it from Gen^r Carleton at Montreal. Pleasant weather.

16. Went to hear Parson Henry this morn^g. Finlay came to town for the first time since his arrival. Went out before dinner. Dined at home. Drank tea with M^{rs} Rowe.

17. Dined with J. Rowe & wife. Cap^t Hall disappointed them by not com^g to dinner. Some showers this afternoon. Rowe & I went to the goal. Willmot not at home. His wife opened the door look^g like a half-bred fury. Rowe began to ask one Lewis when he expected to be released. M^{rs} Willmot immediately ordered him into another room & told him he was to answer no one any question that they asked him. Rowe then asked to see the prisoners in the other end of the goal & she refused open^g the door telling him it was M^r Dunn's orders that no person but the Goaler was to be allowed to speak to a prisoner without his orders. N. B. This Lewis — is one sent from Montreal by Gov^r Carleton for saying some things w^{ch} displeased the Gov^r. Military law this.

18. This afternoon took a walk to Finlay's. He much better. Cap^t Hunter in his Majesty's armed Brig^a the Gaspie arr^d here.

19. By the Courier from Montreal this day we have an acc^t of the arrival there of Col^o Johnston,* Cap^t Claus, Cap^t McLean & some others from the Mohawk River. This even^g at Prentices, the English Militia met by desire of M^r Dunn. Ab^t 100 collected together. W^m Hay, C. J.,† attended by M^r Dunn, Collins, W^m Grant & some other courtiers. Opened the meeting by calling for two large bowls of punch and then by beginning a harangue to the people. "Gentlemen (says he) the design of your "meeting at this time is to see how many we can muster "as a militia, to appoint you officers, & set an example to "the French people who I am very sorry to say are very "backward at this time to form themselves into a Body "tho : not so much as I believe in this district as in Mon- "treal." Then told us that we must form ourselves into

*Guy Johnson, Lieut. Colonel and Superintendent General of Indian affairs.

†Chief Justice.

some such Body before any modes of Law could be established and then as the time was short for them to fix on proper officers he would take on himself to name four Gentⁿ which he doubted not they would have no objections to. He then named Cap^t Neiran, Cap^t Equiae,* Alex^r† & Malcolm Fraser, four half-pay officers. The people then were desired to consider of the matter & have a meeting again soon. There was something said by Rowe, M^cCord,‡ Gregory, & two or three more, but without rule or order. Gregory told the Judge that he was always ready to defend his own property & that of his neighbors. The Judge stopt him rather short & said so would *every Goose in the Parish*, he supposed. The meeting broke up & agreed to meet on Saturday next on the Parade.

20. Cap^t Parks, master of one of the Transports, dined with us. Towards evening a meeting of the Merchants & others at Simpson's, Jn^o Wells in the chair. The design of the meeting was declared to be for the purpose of knowing the minds of the people, whether they would form themselves into a militia or private company and choose officers from amongst themselves to command that company & apply to the Gov^r to confirm that choice by giving such persons commissions. After some debate the question was put & carried by a very great majority. A few dissent^s on acc^t of their having the ev^s before given their vote for the half-pay officers which were mentioned by the Chief Justice. Others desired to defer giving their voice at present & some would give it at the parade on Saturday. Then was nominated & unanimously chose as officers, viz. Anthony Vialars, Cap^t Charles Grant, 1st Lt., Randle Meredith, 2^d Lt., John Painter, En^s, & Peter Mills§ as Adjutant.

21. This forenoon, Jn^o Welles, Z^r M^cCauley, Ja^s

*Major Ecuyer came early to Canada and was one of the commissioners to administer the oath of allegiance to Canadians. Served through the siege.

†Captain in the 78th regiment (Fraser's Highlanders).

‡A Quebec merchant, who gave annoyance to the government by persistent agitation for an Assembly.

§Adjutant in British militia. Was made prisoner in the action in which Montgomery was killed. Marshal of the Vice-Admiralty.

Cummins, & Jn^o Painter waited on the Hon^{ble} Tho^s Dunn, Esq^r as presiding in the absence of the Gov^r with the resolves of the meeting last evening and the names of the Officers pitched on and M^r Dunn approved of the choice. After M^r Welles' return to the lower town he rec^d a letter from the Hon. W^m Hey, C. J. telling him that the meeting at Simpsons the night before appeared to him a party affair and that Welles was a fomenter & stirrer up of that party to which long letter M^r Welles wrote him not a very long answer.

22. Ab^t the English Merchants, Traders & others mustered on the parade according to appointment, some with and some without firelocks. Cha^s Grant at the head of ab^t 50 men with firelocks, marched in Indian file from the lower Town market place to the parade in the upper town. Alexander Simpson bro^t up the rear as Lieut. Cha^s in the front, on his right was a highland piper making a most horrid noise with his bagpipes, & on his left Costen with his broad ax on his shoulder. On the parade all was drawn up by Ja^s Thompson* & Peter Mills, M^r Dunn, Alex^r Johnston, Doc^r Mabane & others falling into the ranks. The Judge came down to review the troops & after taking a turn or two around the whole Body & W^m Grant with his detached party from S^t Roc of nine men, he set Thompson & Mills to take the names of the Brigade & it amounted as I hear to ab^t 180. He then told all that he hoped the next time they were reviewed it would be by a more able general and so dismissed the Body.† This evening a most scandalous paper made its appearance at the Coffee House as a burlesque on the meeting at Simpsons on Thursday even^g last & a Great number of names put to it as people who were at the meet-

*He was present at the taking of Louisburg in 1758, and of Quebec in 1759; as member of the Royal Engineers had superintendence of the defences of the city, and was for many years possessor of Montgomery's sword.

†Quebec Gazette, 27th July: "On Saturday last, between twelve and one o'clock, the British inhabitants of Quebec to the number of about two hundred, mustered on the Parade for the purpose of forming a militia; where being drawn up, with the Hon. William Hey, Esq., at their head, the first characters in the place falling into the ranks indiscriminately; after having their names taken down and giving three huzzas for the King, they marched off again, the bagpipes playing Lochaber No More."

ing. It was shown by Jn^o Paterson to Jn^o Welles, Randell, Meredith, Geo. Gregory, myself & many more. He says he took it from one that Alex^r Martin had. Martin shew one likewise. Paterson has promised a copy to R. Meredith.

23. Sunday. I went to meeting. Dined at home.

24. A report prevails this morning that ten sail of vessels are in the river com^g up. That eight of them are transports. This morning Du Croix bro^t some papers to the office w^{ch} he says M^r Finlay gave him yesterday to translate into French. It is an address to the Canadians dated as from Montreal and in H. F's own handwriting, persuading the Canadians to defend the Province from any attack which may be made on them and endeavoring to point out an inconsistency in the General Congress by comparing their letter to the Canadians with the one they wrote to the people of Great Britain on the act of Parliament for the regulation of Quebec & establishing the Roman Catholic religion. Drank tea wth M^{rs} McNeil.

25. Walked out to Finlay's. Find that he intends supressing that address w^{ch} Du Croix translated for him, I believe chiefly on the acc^t of my having read it in his hand writing.

26. The Post from Montreal brings an acc^t of 2 or 3 hundred savages being collected there. Nothing more material.

27. Waited on M^r T. Dunn this morn^g. Mr. [George] Pownall, Secretary of the Province, & W^m Grant of S^t Roc at M^r Dunn's room. M^r Pownall told M^r D. that last even^g Major Caldwell* had informed him he had seen four men which he took to be Yankees crossing the plains of Abra^m. M^r P[ownall] acquainted Mr. Hey, C. J. of it when he arr^d at his house and M^r Pownall at M^r Heys desire went this morn^g to Maj^r Caldwell's house to inquire if he knew who the men were, but the Maj^r being from home he could get no further intelligence. Thus are the Great Folks alarmed at the sight of a Yankee in this province, at this time. I imagine they were some of the stone cutters going from Quebec to Wolfs Cove. A brig^a from Nfland & one from S^t Lucas wth salt arr^d this even^g.

*The Seigneur of Levis.

28. Ja^s Price arrived from Montreal. He came by water & brings an acc^t of 11 or 12 hundred savages of the six nations, etc., being at Montreal. The number of fighting men between 3 & 400, the rest are women & children. They draw three thousand rations of provisions daily. Cap^t Constant Freeman told me this even^g that he heard E. Harrison, W^m Grant of S^t Roc, Adam Lymburner wishing that the Regular Troops in the late battle had killed 1000, 5000, & one of them said *Ten Thousand Yankees* and then they (the Colonists) would be easy & submit to Government. This even^g Cap^t Geo. Gregory acquainted me wth what he overheard between Shepard & Harrison. Ja^s Shepard told Harrison that Gov^r Carleton ought to have published a Proclamation which the Judge (M^r Hey) had drawn a scetch of, a copy of which Shepherd said the Judge had shown him and further said that it was a very fine one and would have fired the people at once. One passage in it was, "That all they who would not ——— should leave the Province in eight days." Gregory believes & so do I that the blank which he could not distinguish the words of was (take up arms). This evening was confined in the Goal of this place two men which were sent down from Montreal by water guarded by a party of the 26th Reg^t. They were com^g a cross lake Champlain in a canoe & were taken at the River Cole by LaNaudiere wth some soldiers & Indians. They are called Bostonians & confined I suppose as spies, tho : neither of 'em lives near any part of the Province of Massachusetts Bay. This even^g M^{rs} Rowe told me that M^r Rowe had rec^d a letter from the Judge by which the Gov^r had dismissed him from all services.

30. Went to meeting to hear Parson Henry. After meeting walked to Holland House, dined wth Finlay & family. M^r and M^{rs} Rowe dined there, & young Loring, the Commodore's son. Heavy showers this afternoon. Walked in ab^t 8 o'clock. L^t Johnston arr^d this day from Montreal. Brings nothing very material.

31. About noon I was much surprised at receiving a letter from Hugh Finlay, telling me he should take the Post Office under his own direction, and that he should attend it himself.

Aug. 1, 1775. Tuesday. Finlay came to town this morn^g. We had some but not much talk about the Office. I told him I would take care of it this week for him. A recruiting party began to beat up for volunteers for Cap^t W^m Dunbar's Company of the Royal Highland Emigrants. About 6 o'clock this evening H. T. Cramake, L^t Gov^r, arrived at Quebec from Montreal.

2. We hear from Montreal that there is in that town ab^t 1600 savages, men, women & children. They draw ab^t 3000 rations of provisions daily. They came down wth Col. Johnston and I doubt not will soon return again. Some showers this day. About 7 o'clock this even^g Gov^r Carleton arr^d from Montreal and L^d Pitt wth Col^o Hamilton.*

3. This morn^g John Coffin† with his family in the schooner ——— Fraser Mast^r arr^d in four weeks from Boston. By him came a number of letters from Officers & others there which gives us a more particular acc^t of the Battle on the 17 and 18 ult^o than any we have had yet, and by these acc^{ts} we find by the regulars own acc^{ts} upwards of one thousand men were killed & wounded of the regular Troops—and they say on the part of the Provincials they imagine at least 5 or 600 tho: they know no more than 100 men which they took up in the Trenches, dead or very badly wounded. The 52^d Reg^t suffered very greatly having Maj^r Williams, Cap^t Addison, Cap^t Davison & Cap^t Smith killed & Cap^t Crawford, Thomson, & 5 or 6 more officers wounded. All the Granadier Com^y (excepting ten) killed or wounded. An express arrived this morn^g to the Gov^r with an acc^t of two Canadians being taken up bring^g letters to Tho^s Walker Esq^r from Crown Point, etc. The Gov^r has the letters & the two men are in Goal in Montreal. I have been told (for I was not there) that people of all ranks & denominations have been to pay their respects to the Gov^r to welcome him to Quebec, but he is not to be seen, the Judge & Cramake and He being closetted, I suppose, examing the letters sent for Walker. They left their names & went off and that visit is paid.

*Had charge of the seamen during the siege of Quebec.

†A Boston loyalist. Served at Bunker Hill. Removed with his family to Quebec and took a leading part in its defence.

4. Several paid their respects to the Gov^r this day. He seems greatly confused, as I have been told. M^r Finlay he asked where he came from & which way he got to Quebec. M^r Finlay immediately on his arrival wrote him a letter from Quebec, giving him an account of his arrival, where from and with whom he came. This I think shows he is quite lost. J. Rowe was told he had no further service for him, when he waited on him this morn^g, and J. Welles was asked by him what he wanted. Showers this day. I dined with J. Rowe.

5. The postman Dubord who arrived this morn^g from Montreal tells me that the savages are all gone home, that the two Canadians with the letters for Walker are in Goal & in irons, that 12 or 1400 men are muster^d at Chambly & round there and are determined to have the two out of Goal. They belong to Chambly and [are] part of nine which went thro: the woods to Crown Point for intelligence. Montreal is in very great confusion. Walker is at L'Assumption in his own house & well armed. I dined wth Finlay. Mr. Nicolls of Phil^a dined there and Miss Sally Phillips.

6. Sunday. Went to meeting. Dined at home.

7. I delivered the keys of the Post Office to M^r Finlay this morn^g. Cap^t Hamilton, Maj^r Caldwell, Rich^d Murray and — Pownal, secretary of the Prov. of Quebec went round with a subscription paper to raise money to buy fresh provisions for his Majesty's sick & wounded Troops which lay in Boston. Fargues* bro^t them to our house just as we set down to dinner. If his Majesty can't afford to feed troops, why in the name of Fortune does he keep them? Is not the subscription a great satire on his Majesty? I think it is and did not give a farthing. Finlay gave a half Joannes and before night I was informed they had begged to the am^t of one hundred & seventy odd pounds. This^even^s sailed Hall & another Transport for Boston. B. Price of Montreal went in one. Finlay sent the post off this day.

8. I got most of my things from the office. Bro^t M^r Finlay & B. Price's books to my own room.

*Peter Fargues, a merchant in Quebec. Lieutenant in the British militia.

9. I waited on the two Miss McNeils to the Seminary to see the scholars of the Seminary act the "World unmasked and the Ridiculous Consort." Prologue by Doc^r Gill's son, James Gill. Epilogue by DeLong's son. The solemn distribution of the prizes given by his Excellency Guy Carleton, Major-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Quebec, ends the spectacle, and as an addition to this spectacle they had before the play & between each act Fiddling & Fluting by J. Pascaud, a man from the West Indies seek^s business as a fidler; Tho^s Ainslie, His Majesty's collector for this port, tho: three or four vessels was to be cleared, Fidler, Jn^o Gill, a young man & clerk to Mr. Drummond; H. Finlay, Post-master Gen^r & Post-Master of Quebec, tho: post day & no one to attend to the office but a boy w^{ch} could not give change, fluted; ——— lately came over as a clerk to H. Boone, fluted; Lt Layard, 7th Reg^t, played on the Bass-viol. Thus are his Majesty's officers spending their time in this province at this difficult time. I don't know whether to please the Gov^r (who was there wth a great number of attendants, gent^m & ladies), or whether it was to keep in with the Bishops & Priests. There was a very great crowd of people. The music began ab^t ¼ past eleven o'clock, A. M. and the distribution of prizes was finished ab^t 2 o'clock, P. M.

10. A Brig^a Cap^t Yeatman, arr^d this day from Cork. He brought a paper of the 1st of June, by which we hear that the acc^t of the battle at Lexington had reached there. The same paper gives an acc^t of the great preparations for war making by Spain. This afternoon arrived a brig^a from the West Indies which was loaded here last fall by one Cap^t [Benedict] Arnold who had the chief hand in taking the sloop on Lake Champlain. The Custom House Officers here were determined to seize her as the property of Arnold, but find it is not his.

11. Cap^t Rotche in a Brig^a from Liverpool arr^d this morning with salt & ab^t 50 bb^{ls} pork. Jn^o Elliot Turner came passenger wth Rotch. The vessel with her cargo is consigned to J. C. Minot and J. E. Turner.

12. This even^s E. Harrison and S. Blow had a wrangle at the Coffee House. Both a little in for it.

13. Sunday. I dined with Jacob Rowe & wife. Was told this day that Jn^o Woolsey has, or is to have, J. D. Merciers* place as Coriner. Blow† sailed for Halifax.

14. This morn^s sailed for St. Johns Island, M^r. Fletcher in a sloop. Malcolm Fraser, and young Watts of N. York went with him in order to raise men there for the new Regiment raising of Royal Highland Emigrants, commanded by Col^o McLean.‡ Fraser is a Cap^t. Ste. Watts is promised an Ensign's com^s. At work on Price's books the most of this day,

15. Judge Hey & Mr. Kneller arr^d this day from Montreal. A great number went to the Judge's country house to dine with him. The Gov^r & His Lady went there in the afternoon. He tarry'd there, she returned to town, & the carriage went for him about dark.

M^{rs} McNeil & daughters wth M^{rs} Watts drank tea at M^{rs} Warrens this afternoon. Heard that Malcolm & Alex^r Fraser when below endeavoring to raise recruits were afraid of the Bostonians being near hand of them & Malcolm disguised himself to make his escape. M^cCord told this to Minot, Cole, & Freeman.

17. This day the new Mandamus Councillors met at the Council Chamber in the Bishops Palace, to be sworn into Office. They were to have been sworn into Office the 1st of May last, but it could not be attended to on acc^t of the American disturbances. This evening arr^d a passenger from on board a vessel from London. He brings an acc^t of several vessels being below.

18. Capt. Edward in a brig^a from London arr^d this morning, out eleven weeks. Passengers with him is Cap^t Cooks (late of y^e 47th Reg^t, now Gov^r of Gaspie)§ wth his wife & family; L^t Faunce (late of the 47th Reg^t, now Naval Officer of Quebec), with his wife; Cha^s Hay's wife, and some others. By this vessel papers are rec^d to the 1st of June by which it appears the acc^t of the Lex-

*A merchant in Quebec, and a confederate of Benedict Arnold. An intercepted letter from Arnold to him gave first intimation of Arnold's expedition.

†S. Blow, lieutenant in the British militia.

‡Col. Allan Maclean, of 114th Foot; colonel of Royal Highland Emigrants, which he raised; had charge of the defence of Quebec.

§Capt. Cox, who served through the siege.

ington battle was rec^d in England, but we don't hear of anything done in consequence thereof. Two vessels arr^d from N^land; one from the West Indies; and one from the ports below.

19. The report this morn^g is that Joseph Demian is to be taken on Henry Boone's information against him for saying he would fight for his religion & his king, and that king he said was Louis. Boone gave the information by a letter with w^{ch} he sent his clerk wth to the Gov^r. He then was sent himself, yesterday twice. However, I find there will be no notice taken of it. Demian has been to M^r Cramake & Dunn, and they say they know nothing of it. I believe it is looked on as a drunken party altogether at Cha^s Dailys. This day a schooner arr^d from the West Indies, the master of which informs that a day or two after he left Martinio, he fell in wth a large Spanish ship & they inquired of him if he had seen eight large Spanish men of war? He answered, no. Had he seen three large English men of war? No. Had he seen a very large Spanish ship? No. Had he heard of a Spanish war being declared? No. He then wished them a good voyage & left them.

20. Sunday. Went to hear Parson Henry. Dined with Jacob Rowe & wife. This day after church was Christian'd in Church by the name of Christopher—Gov^r Carleton's son. The sponers were L^t. Gov^r Cramake, L^t Gov^r Hamilton, M^{rs} Drummond & M^{rs} Johnson. Extraordinary—four Governors in Church this day, viz^t Guy Carleton, Gov^r & Com^{der} in Chief of the Province of Quebec, H. T. Cramake, L^t Gov^r of the Province of Quebec, Hamilton, Gov^r of Detroit, Cox, Gov^r of Gaspie. N. B. All these are in the Province of Quebec at present. I walkt as far as Minutes this afternoon and drank tea there. One Robins from England, but who left Phil^a ab^t the middle of May went up to Detroit & that way arrived at Quebec this afternoon. He brings nothing material.

21. I was at work all this day on B. Price's books.

22. Drank tea with M^{rs} McNeil & daughters and met M^r & M^{rs} Finlay going out of town towards even^g. By a Chaloup man which came from below heard of a Brig^a

being ashore near Cape Cat, and a Brig^a & two ships coming up.

23. The Brig^a said to be from London.

24. Sky overcast all this day. A list of our new regulating Council appeared in this day's Gazette for Quebec.

25. This day met at the Council Chamber, Gov^r Carleton & the Councillors. It seems by reports without doors that a plan M^r Hey the Chief Justice had formed for introducing an ordinance to make of force in this Province the Habeas Corpus Act & Tryals by juries, was objected to by some of the French Councillors, and an altercation ensued thereon between the parties. A gold box raffled for at Simpsons won by Harrison. Valued at £50.

26. By the courier this morning arr^d an acc^t that a scurmish between some people from Crown Point and a party of Indians sent out as a scout from St Johns, had happened near the River Cole. Two Indians were mortally wounded. One Provincial was killed, & the savages bro^t his head to St Johns. It is said to be the head of one Cap^t Baker* who had a settlement on the East side of Lake Champlain. This even^g arr^d a schooner and a sloop from Canso loaded wth oyll, mackerell, & dry cod, out 24 days. The masters of these vessels bring an acc^t of Hector McNeils being at Canso when they left it.

27. I dined wth M^r J. Rowe. Two Miss Skeenes there. Drank coffee wth M^{rs} McNeil & daughters. A heavy thunder shower. This day heard that Gerald Fitzgerald, Attorney-at-Law, had gone a voluntire in the Royal Highland Emigrants, & that he was to go off this ev^g for Nfland to raise recruits. Lt. Johnston, late of y^e 7th Reg^t, wth the Gov^{rs} pass had taken himself on board a Brig^a, Cap^t Yewall, bound to Shields and intended paying his creditors wth the fore to'sail, as the sailors fraze is.

28. Monday. I breakfasted wth Chaperon & wife.

*One of the Green Mountain Boys. Born in 1740; fought at Ticonderoga, was with Ethan Allen at the taking of Ticonderoga, and was killed in August, 1775. The manner of his death is thus described in Ainslie's Narrative: A party of Indians had three of their number wounded by some shots from adjacent bushes. The Indians set out after the attacking party, and brought back the head of the leader, Captain Baker.

The Hon^{ble} Tho^s Dunn, Esq^r., went on board the Brig^a Cap^t Yewall & bro^t L^t Johnston on shore which stops his voyage for this time. It seems he got his pass from Gov^r Carleton by telling him that he had settled all his affairs & paid all his debts—a most infamous lie this.

29. Hector McNeil arrived this evening from Dominica in Drummonds scho^r. He says that at Canso he heard that at Roxbury had been another battle, & most of the light horse were killed in the engagement—but we must wait for particulars.

30. This day from Montreal we have reported that three men of Bakers party on the Lake had come in to St Johns & given themselves up.

Sept. 1, 1775. Ab^t 2 o'clock this afternoon arr^d at Quebec J. W. Swift in twenty-four days from Phil^a. He sail'd from Phil^a in a vessel bound to Halifax; met wth a fishing vessel off Halifax & went to Canso, and from there took passage in a small schooner & was landed at the Comarascoes, & came up by land. He says the General Congress at Phil^a have again for the last time petitioned home for redress of grievances. M^r Penn, brother to the Gov^r of Phil^a, sailed with the Petition in June last. He likewise carried home a manifesto by which (if the petition is not heard) they declare America an independent state. He has likewise carried home letters to the people of Great Britain and Ireland. The Congress is adjourned to the 10th inst. They have appointed B. Franklin Esq^r Postmaster Gen^l for North America. They have appointed Washington Generalissimo of all the American forces, [Artemas] Ward Second in Command, & one Gen^r Lee the 3rd. They have voted 150 thousand men to be raised from the different provinces. Swift bro^t some Phil^a papers with him w^{ch} I am told contain the manifesto with some letters & notes w^{ch} passed between Gen^r Bourgoïn and Gen^r Lee, the one at Boston, and the other at Roxbury. The Congress at Phil^a had a guard of five thousand men under arms while sitting. Gen^r Carleton got possession of those newspapers before anyone here had seen them, [so] that the public now will not be the better for them. Swift says he saw 7 or 8 vessels on the river. I drank tea wth M^{rs} Rowe this afternoon.

2. This day arr^d a sloop from Falmouth in Engl^d out 11 weeks—brings nothing new, not even a newspaper or letter. The wind blew fresh at East toward even^g. I drank tea wth M^{rs} Watts. M^{rs} McNeil & Miss Lee there.

3. Sunday. A brig^a & a scho^r both from the Island of St^t Johns loaded chiefly wth oyle, arr^d this morn^g. This afternoon a sloop from New Haven, a brig^a from Bermuda. By the New Haven man by stelh a few of us got a sight of the Newspaper in which is the Manifesto of y^e Congress.

4. Parent's daughter married this morn^g. The ship Pomonia, Cap^t Green, arr^d from London which place he left the beginning of July. The Brig^a —, Cap^t —, from Whitbey out 7 weeks. Not a newspaper to be seen by either. It is conjectured, & I believe with some Truth, that the papers are all carried to the Gov^r. We hear by some private letters that the City of London had presented Lord Effingham with the freedom of the City in a gold box for his Speech in the House of Lords & the resignation of his Commission. We also hear that the Lord Mayor & Common Council of the City had attempted to address or petition his Majesty but that he had refused to hear them, & that they determined to present it to him when on the Throne.

5. The Ship yesterday from London comes to Swift & Cummins and when Swift went on board (I was told by D. Shoolbred) he said if there was any papers the Gov^r should have them before they were seen by anyone. This morning Atkinson rec^d from Cummins some newspapers from Eng^d w^{ch} came by the ship yesterday, to the 26 June.

6. L. D. Mercier & I took a walk this morn^g round by the new wharf, cross the plains of Abraham, & home by the way of St^t Roc. In the afternoon I walked out on the plains by way of the Citedal. Swift & Mercier out a gunning. Swift & self drank tea wth M^r Hay's wife at Mount Pleasant. J. D. M. informed me y^t Swift came in a Phil^a Packet boat to the Comarasco's. This evening a sloop arr^d from Halifax. The Master brings an acc^t that one of the Kings armed schooners, commanded by Cap^t Dawson, was taken, & that Dawson was killed in the

engagement. Heard that the scouting party from St. Johns had returned & they report they had met with nothing in their march, but that the day after they left Point au Fere, a great number of N. Engl^d people came there.

7. Cap^t Gregory told me this morn^g that it is reported that *two hundred Batteaux* with men from Crown Point were at Point au Fere—that Gov^r Carleton with Col^o McLean, M^r Cuthbert & the recruits from this [province] were this morn^g set off for Montreal. Judge Hay, M^r Dunn & several more Courtiers ab^t the Coffee House to pick up news. M^r McNeil & the Judge had a long talk.

8. McNeil tells me that yesterday he told the Judge more Truth than he had heard for a long time. Spent the [even^g] at McNeils.

9. On the arrival of the Post this morning we have various reports of a battle near St. Johns between the N. Engl^d people & the Regular troops with their Indians. It is said that the former had two hundred men killed, the latter three Indians killed & one wounded, & that Cap^t Brice of the 7th Reg^t is wounded. Another report is that the N. E. People have made their landing good at St. Johns with the loss of a number of men, and that they have taken Cap^t Thompson with thirty Carpenters & have burnt the Vessels he has been building. The Express that was com^g down met the Gov^r on the road. This afternoon the English Merchants, Gentⁿ & others were on the Parade, some wth and some without small arms, to the am^t of Two hundred & Twenty, for the design of being formed into a militia. L^t Gov^r Cramake told them he would command the English himself & Maj^r Caldwell he would appoint second in command, & that he would soon appoint his officers. This night the first Militia Guard was set at the Gates & Ramparts. The new recruits marched for Montreal this afternoon.

10. Sunday. An Express arr^d from Gen^r Carleton (who was at Three Rivers yesterday at 10 o'clock A. M.) to L^t Gov^r Cramake. It is said that more arms & ammunition is ordered up immediately by the Gov^r. This morn^g by 6 o'clock was ordered to be on the Parade four Comp^{ys} of the French Militia. The L^t Gov^r was on the Parade in

time, and at half past 7 o'clock there was about 100 (out of 320 which should have been there) drawn up. They then demanded (or rather Baillarger for them) by what authority they were mustered, and the Lt Gov^r was obliged to go home & fetch the Gov^{rs} Commission & have it read to them. He then delivered out a number of Commissions to the Militia Officers. I went to meeting to hear Parson Henry. Rowe, Finlay & I walked out to Holland House to Dinner. Mr & Mrs Scot came out and drank tea there. Finlay walked in with us, being for guard this night. Maj^r Caldwell, W^m Grant & others went to Point to raise men but could not get one.

11. Last even^g the Collector Tho^s Ainslee, Esq^r., made a seizure of a small sloop with white wine & Brandy on board belong^g to the Bondfields as it is said; he was likewise on board a small schooner, but the people drove him from that, cut the Cable or weighed anchor, & are gone off. Ainslie has sent two or three boats after her, and towards even^g the Schooner & people were brought back. The report of the day is that Maj^r Caldwell, Seignier & P^t Levi, Tarchereaux, Seign^r of Novell Boss, wth S^t Ardre, Mr. Dufau & others went to P^t Levi this morn^g & about noon had sent over word they had raised a thousand men, which were to be marched toward S^t Igan. I had a walk across the Plains of Abraham & then to S^t Roc. This afternoon spent the greatest part of it at D. Munro's shop. Saw Hitty Maverick there.

12. Reports of the morn^g is that yesterday at Point Levi the people were mustered quite from below the Comaraskas to the number of 14 or 1500, but not as was yesterday reported to be sent to S^t Igan, but to drive the people home who came to enlist them. They abused Maj^r Caldwell, Tachereaux, etc., and obliged them to return without a man & declare they shall not have one from any parish on the S^o Shore. Not a canoe from P^t Levi has come to market this day. Seven comp^{ys} of the Quebec Militia was to have been on the Parade by 6 o'clock this morn^g, which should be about 560 men, but at half past 7 o'clock there was not, when mustered, above 200, and a shabby appearance they made. Lt Gov^r Cramake told them as it was a working day he imagined that a great number were

at their daily labor & the muster should be on Sunday morn^g. A report this even^g that all the colonists who were said to be near St^t Johns are gone off to the Isle Nois, there to entrench themselves & wait for more men & cannon. Another report that Montreal is taken. How various are these storys, all raised, as I imagine, to induce the Canadians to take up arms, and how are the great disappointed. Another report of the day is that a French Boucher last Friday in the Montreal market was delivering a letter w^{ch} he bro^t from the New England men's camp to St^t Johns to Tho^s Walker, Esq^r., to a servant belong^t to Walker & that Maj^r Hughes seeing it secured the letter & the two men. The letter was carr^d to the commanding Officer, & the men put on board the Gaspie, an armed schooner there. The report is likewise that the Frenchman is to be hanged next Fryday and a party is sent out to take Walker. N. B. 'tis very few of the reports I hear that I believe.

13. A number of us went to the Plains this afternoon in commemoration of the day. This even^g in the Coffee House Ja^s Shepard was advancing with an audible voice that Lt Gov^r Cramake last Sunday morn^g should have shot Baillenger for demand^g by what authority the French people were then assembled on the Parade, instead of going and fetching the Gov^{rs} Commission, and that would have stopped their mouths, & he would have had Frenchmen enough to have turned out without asking questions. Atkinson & I drank tea with M^r & M^{rs} Rowe.

14. A snow from Jersey or Gernsey, a ship from Liverpool, & a schooner from Louisbourg arr^d this morning, but bring nothing new. Boone & some others arrived from Montreal last even^g. He gives an acc^t that the Americans are five thousand near St^t Johns, that most of the French from Montreal are gone to join the Camp there. That the N. England people (as they are called) are a miserable set, mostly boys, badly clad, & very sickley, very little of which do I believe. The paper of this day gives an acc^t of the action of the 6th Inst. at St^t Johns but don't pretend that there was more than 40 Americans killed & thirty wounded, but gives a very lame acc^t of the battle. This even^g at the Coffee House was

read by R. Meredith an English paper of the 13 July, bro^t by the Cap^t of the Liverpool ship. It contains nothing very material. On read^s a paragraph w^{ch} mentions establishing a martial court or a court of Oyer & Terminer to try Americans who may be taken, & who are stiled rebels, W^m Grant of S^t Roc with a sneer said the best & shortest way would be to shute them at once.

16. This morning arr^d Cap^t Mitchell in a ship from Cadiz with a load of Salt consigned [to] Lester and Galway, out 72 days. The acc^{ts} by the post (from Montreal) w^{ch} arr^d this day are various, but seem in general to agree that the Recruits w^{ch} were ordered up from this place are ordered back again and are expected to be in Town tomorrow or on Monday. A Drum was sent round the town ordering all the inhabitants of Quebec, French & English, to appear on the Parade tomorrow morning by 7 o'clock, under arms.

17. Sunday. This morn^g the show was great of troops of a motley mixture of French & English, lead to the Parade by their respective Cap^{ts} in Comp^{ys}, and such as had not Arms were offered arms from the King's store. Many of the French refused taking them. The six Capt^s of the English militia are Alex^r Johnston, Tho^s Ainslie,* Anth^y Vialars, Cha^s Grant, Edw^d Harrison & James Johnston, Cap^t of Art^y. The report of the day is that Lady Maria Carleton is ordered home by the Gov^r. That the Gov^r was very near being taken on the River Chambley by a party of the Americans & five or six Canadians who were with them, & who a few days past was in search for him & actually went to a house that his Excellency & Lord Pitt had left not more than three or four minutes. The report is likewise that the Vessels & boats which were building at S^t Johns are burnt or sunk, w^{ch} will put a stop to His Excellency's Expedition to Crown Point, etc. for this season. Went to meeting this morn^g I dined with M^r & M^{rs} Rowe. This evening two companies of the new militia mounted Guard with arms & accoutrements, viz^t Cap^t Alex^r Johnston's com^y in the upper town & Cap^t Tho^s Ainslie at Simpson's Coffee House in the

*Collector of Customs at Quebec. Captain in British militia.

lower town. N. B. This is the first regular, irregular Militia Guard mounted in this City. Tho^s Scott & Randlet Meredith, officers in Ainslie's C^o, began their Guard at 6 o'clock this evening & are to be relieved at 6 tomorrow even^g.

18. The report of the morning is that Government have engaged Cap^t Frost's & Cap^t Green's ships wth a new schooner of Perrault's and are going to fit them out as armed Vessells to cruise in the River, one or both ships to carry 9 or 12 pounders. Cap^t Frost's ship is going express to Boston. Several vessells are taken into Government service, to be armed to guard the river. It is reported that all the cannon are ordered to be brought over from P^t Levi. A guard of twenty men are ordered to each gate. One hundred & twenty Frenchmen are for the guard this night, 30 only appeared. I drank tea wth M^r & M^{rs} Rowe. A dark wet night.

19. The report of the morn^g is that G—— C—— is wounded, and in the fort at Chamblie, that E. Harrison is taken on the River Sorrel & that Jer. Duggan* is gone to the Americans wth a number of Canadians.

20. The post this morning brings an acc^t and it is confirmed by a number of letters in town that a cannonading had been at S^t Johns for 5 or 6 hours, but what the event had been remains a secret. This day an Orderly man was ordered for the Commanding Officer at which many of them grumble, as they do likewise at Col^o M^cLean being appointed their commanding officer, as they imagine he is. Went on board Cap^t Mitchell's ship. Sup'd with Freeman at M^r Jackson's.

21. The great Folks gave out here that Gen^r Scuyler had sent out a Manifesto amongst the Inhabitants on the River Sorrell demand^g from each Parish fifty men with arms & accoutrements & four days provisions under pain of military execution. This I believe not a word of. I have heard this day that Sam^l Mather is with the Provincial Army on this side Chamblie. It is reported that five thousand N. England men are on this side the fort of S^t Johns. I dined wth J. Rowe.

*Jeremiah Duggan, a hair-dresser in Quebec who joined the Americans and had 500 Canadians under his command.

An express arr^d this evening, but it is said brings nothing new. People very busy in repairing the walls & garrison & arming ships. Some people (I believe Shepard & W^m Grant are concerned) hav^e been very busy in acquainting the L^t Governor that the Americans who are here will not take up arms, & it has been told Freeman that he & some others would be sent for by the Gov^r.

22. Another express arr^d this morning but nothing new transpires now at noon. A Scotch ship arrived this morn^g, a number of passengers are come in her. This evening arr^d Watsons ship from London, a ship of R. Derby's* from Falmouth with a load of wines, & a Brig^a from London. Lady Maria & M^{rs} Johnston sailed this even^g for London. Ja^s Todd arr^d from Montreal & gives a confused acc^t of a scurmish that 80 Regulars had wth a party consist^g of 200 Americans & Canadians some distance from the fort of S^t Johns on the road lead^g to La Perrie, where the latter had 30 or 40 killed and wounded and that Hazen & Tucker are taken Prisoners. It can't be. Meredith & Ja^s Shepherd shew great joy on the relation of the above news at the Coffee House, and felt them bold enough to beat all the Yankies. They both were for having the N. E. People all hanged that should attempt to come into the Province.

23. The above acc^t is variously reported this morning and they have a report that the regulars have marched out of Boston, forced the provincial entrenchments, killed upward of 20 thousand of 'em & drove them back into the country. But who has bro^t this news I can't learn.

24. Sunday. Harrison' who was said to be taken arr^d this day from Montreal. He confirms the acc^t of Hazen & Tucker's being taken, likewise that a number of the Rebels (as they are called here) are intrenched at the Point of the River Sorrell. Dined at McNeils.

25. Reports this day are that the N. Engl^d people are at Three Rivers. There is no believing any reports we hear. Finlay & family is moved to Town. I called to see M^{rs} Finlay at the Post Office. A pleasant day.

27. No courier from Montreal, which gives great uneasiness here.

*Richard Derby, the Salem merchant.

28. The Courier arr^d this afternoon. Brings an acc^t of a scurmish at Long Point on the Island of Montreal, on Monday last, between the people who went out from there in number ab^t 200 and a party of Rebels, as they are called, of the Americans & Canadians with Col^o Allen at their [head] to the amount of 100 or 150. The latter were beat, had 6 or 7 killed & between 30 & 40 taken. Maj^r Carden killed, Alex^r Paterson wounded, one more killed & some wounded.

29. An Embargo laid on all Vessels 'till the 20th of Octob^r.

30. Minot, Cole & I dined wth McNeil. The post arr^d this afternoon. Brings a confirmation of the battle of last Monday, but not any new particulars.

Oct. 1, 1775. Cap^t Bass in a schooner arr^d from the West Indies. He brings an acc^t that most of the Cattle, Sheep, etc., which were ship'd for the sick soldiers in Boston was lost going thro: the gut of Canso & the Brig^a went in on her beam ends. A brig^a from Bonaventure arr^d. Several vessels are in the River. Col^o McLean gave a dinner this day at Simpsons to all the masters of vessels here. They had each a blue cockade given them. Capt Johnston on the wharf. W^m Grant & Alex^r Fraser dined there. H. McNeil was to have dined wth them but went home on seeing all with their cockades. Some of the Cap^{ts} went off fully loaded & some too much by the head.

2. Monday. Ainslie, the collector, insists that Cap^t Bass shall enter his Vessel here & pay the duties on the molasses. Cole, wth Bass, tell him they will only report & go to some other port with their Cargo. They waited on M^r Cramake, our L^t Governor, for his permit to leave the Province. He has taken their case into consideration & will give an answer this even^g. Cap^t Green sailed for London. Lord Pitt & others went passengers.

3. Last even^g arr^d a master of a Transport from Boston. He left his vessel at Coudre & came up wth his boat, hav^g heard that Quebec was taken. He brings nothing very material.

4. Cap^t Bass was by the L^t Gov^r refused liberty to go off with his vessel again. The Post from Montreal did

not arrive 'till towards evening. Nothing material from there. Two of Bass's men pressed by Cap^t Napier.

5. Capt. Parks & three more Transports arr^d this morning from Boston. L^t Kelly of y^e 10th and wife came passengers. One Bliss & Chandler came passengers likewise. The May packet was also bro^t by one of the Cap^{ts} of the transports. Most of the newspapers carried to the Gov^r. One Transport from Halifax bro^t 32 carpenters & Batteau men. As the last Transport sailed from Halifax, Ja^s Price of Montreal & ——— Nicholls of Phil^a left Halifax in a whale boat they bo^t there. I dined with Cap^t Freeman. I saw a letter from Boston which gives an account how wretchedly they are off for want of fresh provisions, bad beef 1-3 p^r pound & that very scarce. Cap^t Napier in a large armed Brig^a sailed this day up the river on a Cruize.

6. Had a sight of a few Halifax papers. Dined on board Bass's Schooner. Cap^t Freeman, Watt, Atkinson, Minot, Cole, & Cap^t Fraser there. Mercier, Minot & self spent the even^g wth McNeil.

7. Vialar's Brig^a arr^d from London, 16 weeks out. Adam Lymburner & several others of the militia officers this morn^g waited on the L^t Gov^r to acquaint him of a number of Americans not taking arms & that they insisted that they be obliged either to take arms or be sent out of the place. L^t Gov^r will give an answer on Monday. By the Post this day from Montreal we have an acc^t that a party was sent out from Montreal to L'Assumption & took Tho^s Walker prisoner after burn^g his houses, etc. there, but not 'till he had wounded two or three of them. It is said that some of the N. E. men w^{ch} were taken prisoners had acquainted the Gov^r that Walker had invited into the Country & promised to join them with a number of Canadians. I dined with M^r McNeil. Col^o McLean with his reg^t of Emigrants are ordered to march on Monday toward Montreal.

8. Sunday. Went to meeting to hear Parson Henry. Dined with Jacob Rowe & wife. I drank tea there. Finlay drank tea with us.

9. Dined at home. Ab^t 2 o'clock M^r Sinclair came to warn me by order of L^t Gov^r Cramake to attend on the

perade to mount guard in Mr Ainslie's Comp^y. I desired him to give my Compliments to Mr Cramake & tell him I could not attend. Cole & Minot was in the same comp^y & desired to attend at the same time, but likewise refused. J. D. Mercier & John Halstead were desired to attend at the same time & place, but in Alex^r Johnston's Comp^y. Mercier was in town & refused. Most of the merchants in town denie having applied to the L^t Gov^r to oblige us to take arms. Cap^t Painter buried this even^g.

10. I dined at McNeil's. Drank tea with Mr^s Rowe. Mr Finlay, Mr & Mr^s Allsop and A. M. Bonfield there. This evening heard that a warrant was out against some one of the Americans, but could not learn who.

11. This morn^g arr^d the Brig^a Geo., Cap^t Richards, from Montreal. Mrs. Antill & family came down in her. Thirty odd prisoners which were taken on the Island of Montreal at the battle of the 25th ult^o at Long Point came down with Cap^t Richards. The English were put on board an armed ship in the river. The Canadians in number ab^t 14 were landed & guarded to goal ab^t 4 o'clock P. M. by a party of Militia. A very great crowd to see them. Alex^r Davison asked me if I was going to see people who had been fighting for me, & Woolsey's mouth was bellow^g out Rebels & that if he had the Command they should all have been hanged without troubellling a goal. The Post arr^d, the only acc^t he brings that is to be credited is that a heavy cannonading was heard at St Johns on Sunday last.

12. His Majestys Ship Hunter, Cap^t McKenzie, arr^d from Boston. Brings letters from London in June and an acc from Boston that Gen^r Lee with eighteen hundred men had left the Camp at Cambridge to come this way. A Transport arr^d & a Brig^a from Jersey or Guernsey. The Post was stopped 'till 5 o'clock P. M. Some showers this day.

[Two pages torn out.]

27. Isaac Todd, Guy Johnston, etc., etc. This evening arr^d Chabot in his sloop from Sorrell. He has brought down with him Ethan Allen in irons, who is to be put on board the man of war here, viz: the Hunter sloop, Cap^t McKenzie.

28. It is whispered this morning that the Yankies have taken the fort at S^t Johns & that the acc^t of it is brought down by Chabot. This day ab^t noon J. D. Mercier was taken by Ja^s Thompson, Town Serg^t, and put under guard at the main guard by an order from H. T. Cramake; & M^r Dunn & Doc^r Mabane, I am informed, was sent down & examined his papers. J. C. Minot and Jon^a Cole went to see them this afternoon at the guard room. He knows not at present what he is taken up for. The Post arr^d this afternoon from Montreal and brings a confirmation of the taking of the fort at Chamblie. Last Monday was a week. In the fort was taken Maj^r Stanford* of the 7th Reg^t, a Cap^t, Lt, and En^s, with thirty-six privates of the 7th. They were allowed 6 hours to pack up their necessaryes & were marched off. In the fort was taken a twelve months provisions wth a great number of arms & a quantity of ammunition.

29. This morning ab^t 6 o'clock J. D. Mercier was sent from the guard room with a Corporal & six men wth musquets & bayonets, down to the land^s place & sent on board the Hunter sloop, Cap^t M^cKenzie. It is given out this morn^g that Mercier sent off regular intelligence from this to Halstead Mill & from there a regular express was sent thro: the woods. J. Franks was on the wharfe when Mercier went off, & in his hearing he demanded of the Corporal & of the L^t of the man of war who rec^d him whether they had any crime against him. They answered none. The sloop General Gage arr^d from Boston. A body of the merch^{ts} met & choose A. Vialar, Ja^s Johnston & R. Meredith to wait on the L^t Gov^r Cramake to know his reasons why Mercier was taken up. His answer was that in the present shape of the Province he was not at liberty to acquaint them with his reasons.

30. Monday. The Cap^{ts} of the Militia was sent for this day by the L^t Gov^r who told them he had sufficient against J. D. Mercier to confine him w^{ch} was satisfactory (it is said) to them, but they I believe were enjoined secrecy, as they would not repeat any word.

*Stopford.

[End of the journal.]

After the foregoing Journal was in type a collection of Jeffry family manuscripts was found in the possession of Mr. Ralph D. Cleveland, of Newton Highlands, Mass., and by his kind permission several letters relating to the Quebec siege are appended. From papers left by Mr. Cleveland's father—Horace W. S. Cleveland—it seems certain that the Journal following the one here printed, together with interleaved journal-almanacs and other diaries kept by James Jeffry and his father James, were all destroyed in the great Chicago fire.

Quebec, 30 June 1775.

I hope you are all in health and remain quietly in your old habitations in Salem.

I got thro: as well or better than I could have expected. On my arrival at Cambridge I found my fellow Traveller* that was to be just mounting his horse to return to Salem being as he thought disappointed of his pass. He stopt a while till I got mine but that not being so clear as he expected, gave him some encouragement & he determined to go on, but then we must not go off together. He went first & I follow'd him in a quarter of an hour. That night we lodged at Reding. We travelled together till the 2d June and within abt. 30 mile of Ticondaroga—tho: not without his resolving to turn back several times before; but at this place he was sure he should not be permitted to pass Ticondaroga & Crown Point and said he would turn abt. & go to Albany. I gave him a letter to a friend there & we parted. I told him I should go till I was really stopt & if I should be I would soon be with him at Albany by way of lake George.

The 3d, in the afternoon I arr'd at Ticondaroga where I waited till ye 5th before I could get a passage to Crown Point, but found no difficulty in getting a pass from the commanding officer, who gave me a passage in a boat he was sending down and sent a man thro: the woods to Crown Point with my horse. I waited from the 5th to the 7th before I could get a conveyance down lake Cham-

*Samuel Porter, Salem lawyer and loyalist.

plain and then went in a Batteau with a party sent down to Colo. Arnold who was towards St. Johns with the sloop. We met the sloop & a schooner with Four Batteaux under sail returning to Crown Point early on the morning of the 9th. I went on board & made one of a doz'n who sat down to Breakfast in the sloop's Cabin. We had fresh venison roasted, fresh fish broiled, & a good dish of Chocolate—no bad breakfast for a Traveller. Colo. Benedict Arnold is an old acquaintance & treated me very civilly indeed. After breakfast he lay the vessel too & sent a boat a shore with me to a house on the W. side of the lake & within about 30 miles of St. Johns. Here I got a man with a canoe to bring me abt. two leagues further. I then was obliged to get on a large raft of timber which was going down to St. Johns and on Saturday the 10th inst. a little after dark I was taken off the raft by a boat belonging to the regular troops at St. Johns and arr'd there abt. 9 o'clock and here I was again entertained with part of a fine round of Beef, good cheese, porter & grog, and an order given that not one of the comp'y should ask me any questions till I had done supper. In this tent was the commanding officer Major Pres— of the 26th & I believe 10 or 12 officers of that Regt. & five or six officers of the artillery. All the artillery officers I was well acquainted with.

The Doc'r of the artillery provided for me at his room and breakfast for me in the morning. I arr'd at Montreal on Sunday the 11th ab't 6 o'clock P. M. where I staid till Monday evening, then set off for Quebec where I arrived on Wednesday ye 14 Inst. at 2 o'clock P. M. & thus ended my Journey without once even having my letters ask'd for. My fellow Traveller might if he had had the least spark of resolution have arr'd at Quebec with me. Where is he now?

Montreal 24 Dec'r 1775

Dear Brother

The foregoing is copy of Two letters sent into Quebec by Gen'l Montgomery a few days after his arrival before that City. They were sent in by a woman & some by a boy & many were convey'd into the Town ty'd to arrows.

& shot in by Indians as Gov^r Carleton refused to receive either letter or message by a Flagg of truce. The City is now surrounded by the Continental Army who have several batteries open against it & fall it must within a few days—perhaps at this moment it is in the possession of Gen^l Montgomery & the troops under his Command.

Colo. Arnold with abt. 700 men arr'd at Point Levi opposite Quebec the 9th of last month. Gen^l Carleton arr'd at Quebec from Montreal the 19th Nov^r & by a proclamation dated 22 Nov^r ordered all out of Quebec in four days who would not take up arms to defend the Town & Kings stores tho: he would not allow any one to take out their effects. Your Brother was one of a great number who took the opportunity of leaving the wretched place. On the 26th Nov^r I had the pleasure of breakfasting with Colo. Arnold & seeing Colo. Biglow by whom I rec'd your letter which I am obliged to you for. He was then very well & I have just heard he was likewise last Wednesday. My love to Becca. Tell her that for her sake if I have the pleasure of seeing him in Quebec I will render him any service in my power. I have left my bed & bedstead with bedding standing in my room & I have already told him should he get into Town before I get down again where to apply for the key of the room & desired he would go & take possession of it.

The fort of St. Johns & the one at Chamblie with Montreal & several say 11 sail of armed vessels in the River are taken with a great number of Cannon & a quantity of powder & provisions belonging to the King, but the King's Troops hove over from on board one of the vessels upwards of nine hundred barrells of powder. Quebec is the last place that remains in this Province in possession of Gov Carleton but I hope that does not [long]. Our weather thus far has been fine & success (considering the loss of men which has been very few) very great. The French people in general seem very ready to join Gen^l Montgomery & his army.

Many things have I to say but time will not permit. I wrote sister Ann on the 11th inst by post which I hope she will duly receive. I sincerely wish you all the compliments of the season & may the insuing year be at-

tended with health & happiness to us all is the sincere wish of your

To

Arthur Jeffry

Affa

Brother

Montreal, 5th Feby 1776

Dear John.

I cannot omit so favorable an opp'y as I now have of writing you by one Mr Austin who is from your way, purchasing English goods here, which he takes a Cross the lakes in sleys. Several from Connecticut have come on the same errand w'ch has greatly raised the price of dry goods in this Town.

As to our Operations in the martial way I can tell you very little but what I doubt not you have seen in the news papers. I was in hopes to have been in the City of Quebec ere now but many are the disappointments we meet with.

At 4 o'clock on the morn'g of the last day of the old year an attack was made on the two extreme ends of the lower Town of Quebec, Gen'l Montgomery commanding at one end & Colo Arnold with abt. 400 of the men who came thro: the woods with him, at the other. At the first attack Gen'l Montgomery, being in the front of his detachment, was shot dead on the spot, as likewise Mr. McPherson his aid de camp, & one Capt. Cheeseman who were very near him. The party that came up with him then retreated. On the other side Colo. Arnold with his men made an attack & carried the first Battery they came to. Arnold got wounded in the leg & was carried off. His men pushed on & got possession of that part of the lower Town but then they had to encounter the whole force of the Garrison of abt. 1000 men and after an incessant fire of cannon and misquettry for the most of that day our men lost of killed & wounded abt. 60 men, the remainder were taken prisoners & are now in Quebec, treated as well as prisoners can be in a city where they have so small a stock of provisions. Maj. Biglow is among the prisoners. I was with Colo. Arnold abt. 10 days past & by a flagg of Truce w'ch he sent with some necessaries for his people, heard that Maj. Biglow was

very well. This please to let Becca know. We cant learn the loss on the other side. The city is now surrounded by our Troops w'ch stops all communication with the Country & deprives them of all provisions & wood. We shall wait patiently for more moderate weather & reinforcements across the lake. Several volunteers are already arriv'd & as lake Champlain is now froze over we shall have men com'g over daily. We heard yesterday by the post that two Reg'ts are now on their march & by all accounts we expect at least eight thousand men from the different provinces in less than a fortnight. The people in the City are short of provisions & short of firewood—by a deserter who came out a few days past we hear they have not wood enough for ten days.

Capt. Rowland from Salem in a ship of Richard Derbys I saw at Three Rivers a few days past & since I arrived here have heard that his vessel with others w'ch lay at St. Roc near Quebec were all burnt.

I wrote sister Ann of the 6th Decr. last & Brother Arthur of the 11th. I hope they have received the letters. I shall be glad if any or all of you would write me by the post w'ch now comes very regularly to Montreal & direct for me at Messrs. Price & Haywoods where I now am & shall remain with them or Gen^l Wooster till we know the fate of Quebec.

Your affectionate

Brother.

Montreal 15th March 1776

Dear Sister.

Your favor of y^e 20th Feby by Mr. Jenks I received this day. Am glad to hear you are all well, as thank God I have been ever since I left Salem. I am very glad that Cleveland did not come this way from the West Indies for all American vessels have stood a very bad chance in this country & most have been wretchedly harrassed & plagued.

You hear I am an officer. Who informed you of that? Not my letter. I have been offered two or three births since I have been here but not so much in the fighting way—Secretary to the General—or acting Deputy Quar-

termaster in this place, neither of which have I as yet accepted of. I have been employed ever since I have been here in settling the accounts of the contractors and assisting Genl. Wooster in getting his accounts and papers into some Order and regularity and generally spending my time at his house. Jenks dined there with us this day.

As to a journal of my Journey here with the part in w^{ch} I was accompanied by Mr. Porter, I will give my Mr. Jenks when he returns, for he purposes going into Quebec before he returns and I imagine it will be stormed in abt. a fortnight if it is not given up before. I can tell you so far of it that we never were challenged once the whole time we were together & I had as pleasant a journey as I could or did expect & met with no obstructions all the way thro: and Porter had he not been frightened out of his senses, might have come thro: with me. However, he left me & went to Albany, from there to New York. From there I received a letter from him telling me he [should] sail from thence for London.

I wrote John of the 5 Feb'y. I suppose he received my letter about the time yours was dated, as Mr. Austin, by whom I sent it, was arrived at Cambridge abt. the time Mr. Jenks set off. Pray what part of the country is John going a farming in. You will I believe be disappointed in seeing me this spring.

Is any of the people who had left the Town while I was there returned, or is there any more of them taken their flight? Is Capt. Geo. Cabot got home or where is he?

We expect to have an army of ten thousand American Troops in this Country all the ensuing summer and Gen'l Lee is expected to take the command. The poor wretches in Quebec have been shut up as close all this winter as the Troops in Boston & I believe have fared as bad not being able to obtain any fresh provisions or wood from the country round.

My duty to mother with love & respect to all relations, Friends & acquaintances & believe me to be

Yours, etc.

Salem, 14th October 1776.

Dear Brother.

I have again visited this place, but much sooner than I should if peace & quietness had not deserted Canada. On the 25th of last Novr. I left the city of Quebec by the Gov'r's (Carleton's) order, with many others who would not take up arms to defend the Town, but we bro't out little else than our necessary clothing, and this spring, as without doubt you have heard, we were obliged to leave the country and Crown Point for this season must I believe be the Barrier on that quarter.

The ministerial Troops are in possession of New York where I hope & doubt not but they will be confined very near as close as they were last year in Boston, and be as badly supplied with fresh provisions and much worse with salt. Several of their Transports loaded with provisions are already taken. Two of them are brought into Boston.

Privateering is the only business now carried on here, and some of them have had very great success. Capt. Forrester (with whom Jenks went) has taken five prizes, one loaded chiefly with English goods valued at thirty-five or thirty-six thousand pounds ster'g first cost but she is not as yet arrived. If she does, all concerned expect their fortunes are made, that sales of the cargo here will neat at least One hundred thousand pounds sterling.

I intend paying you a visit in your Country retreat, where I hope you enjoy the blessings of Health and quiet contentment, with a sufficiency of this worlds goods to make your life comfortable, free from the noisy dinn of arms & warr.

Brother S. Cleveland sailed the 21st of last month in a Continental Briga. on a voyage to France.

Mother & our Friends here are well. Believe me to be your very aff^a Brother

James Jeffry

To

Mr John Jeffry
Gilmanton, N. H.

